

THE Japan Weekly Mail.

A POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL, AND LITERARY JOURNAL.

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YOKOHAMA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1874. [PRICE \$24 PER ANNUM.

MARRIAGE.

On the 7th instant, at the British Legation, Yokohama, by the Rev. W. B. Wright, M.A., EDWIN WHEELER, Esq., to MARY, second daughter of G. L. MOORE, Esq., Belfast.

DEATH.

At No. 10, Yokohama, on the 7th instant, of inflammation of the lungs, FRANÇOIS CHARLES REVEST, aged 43 years.

Notes of the Week.

THE Foreign Representatives paid their customary New Year's visit to H. I. M. The Mikado, and the usual congratulations were exchanged, Sir Harry Parkes acting as *doyen* of the Diplomatic Body.

THE letter of the Foreign Ministers to the Chairman of the General Chamber of Commerce, dated the 31st December last, informed the merchants of this place that the privileges assumed at one time by the native Guilds have been set at naught by the Japanese Government. It is now affirmed by the highest authority that "the Japanese Government has never for a moment sanctioned such illegal acts as the placing of restrictions on other silk merchants than those connected with the Kiito Aratame Kuaisha, or compelling them to submit to the rules of the said Guild. All guilds being established at the option of the parties forming them, they cannot force others to become members;as all merchants are not members of the said Guild, they have the right to trade freely with natives and foreigners without having their goods examined by the Guild. The Japanese Government will diligently take measures for removing those obstructions to trade of which the honorable (foreign) representatives have complained."

It follows that all the arbitrary acts of the Kiito Aratame Kuaisha during the year 1873 are now to be considered null and void. It follows, moreover, that the obligation imposed on the native silk merchants of Yokohama to abolish the former usages of trade, such as the packing-fee of \$2.50 per picul, the custom of deducting \$1 per bale for the shirting bags, &c., can no longer be supported by any but the sellers themselves individually. It has consequently become optional with the foreign silk buyers to revert to the old usages referred to above, or to drop them, as they choose. As the native traders are no longer legally constrained by any of their authorities to act in a way that may be contrary to their interests, no more are the foreign merchants to heed any rules, regulations or ordinances issued by the Kiito Aratame Kuaisha, which will henceforward be binding only on such of the native traders as are willing to continue members of that body.

We doubt not that all the foreign silk houses will gladly avail themselves of the altered state of affairs to re-establish the old custom, viz: the allowance of \$1 for the shirting bag, \$2.50 per picul as packing fee, &c. With regard to the allowance for strings and paper which was fixed last summer at 2½ per cent, we are enabled to make a very important remark. The Kiito Aratame Kuaisha in their letter to the Chamber stated officially that the weights of the paper, strings, &c. amounted only to 1.6 or 1.7 per cent. But one of our foreign merchants has shewn us the details of the tares, i.e. the weights of the paper and strings, of 30 bales of average runs of last summer's hank silk, which give a mean of 2.62 per cent—exactly one per cent more than was officially asserted by the native Guild. Further comment on this must be unnecessary.

THE Polytechnic and Language Schools (Kai Sei Gakko and Guai Koku Go Gakko) re-opened on Thursday, January 8th, after a vacation of two weeks. Mr. Tanaka, the Vice-Minister of Education, with two of the higher officials of the Department and Dr. David Murray, made a visit of inspection to the class and lecture-rooms of the Polytechnic School, from 9 till 10.30 a.m. At 10 the professors of the Polytechnic and Language Schools sat down with the officers of the Education Department to a cold collation. It has always been the custom thus to begin the new school year, but hitherto little has been said at these gatherings except mere expressions of congratulation, professions of regard for the interests of education, and other pleasant generalities. A marked difference of programme was indicated on this occasion. All the different nationalities represented, English, American, French, German, Russian, and Chinese, were toasted, but the responses were rather of a practical than of a mere flattering nature. The announcement was made by the Chief Director that hereafter regular "Faculty Meetings," or councils of all the foreign professors, for discussion and comparison of ideas and notes,—on the model of those in European and American Universities—would hereafter be held at least once in three weeks, and oftener if it should be found necessary. The foreign instructors were further invited to make any suggestions in writing which their experience might dictate. The new Director seems to be in thorough earnest. The regular exercises of both schools began on the 9th instant.

We would draw attention to a translation to be found elsewhere in our columns, of a recent Edict of great interest and importance, containing the regulations under which the nobles and gentry who are entitled either to grants from the Crown or good service pensions, can have them commuted for sums of money payable in Government Bonds, redeemable within seven years, bearing interest meanwhile at the rate of eight per cent, and saleable or mortgageable to all but foreigners. The object of this measure is to enable the gentry to turn their claims on the Government into ready money, and employ this in business, in grazing or agricultural pursuits. The Edict further provides for the sale of waste lands and forests belonging to the Government, in order to give an ampler field for those who wish to engage in these employments, and the regulations made to this effect seem, so far as we are able to judge of them, both wise and fair. One of the effects of the Edict will be to convert a large idle class into industrious and we trust peaceable citizens, each adding yearly to the national wealth, and identified by his new interests in the preservation of that spirit of order and industry under which alone the good fruits of the Revolution can be reaped.

If we may judge from a short epitome of it in the *New York Tribune*, the Report of the Revd. J. P. Newman, Chaplain of the U. S. Senate, a methodist minister recently sent by General Grant to investigate and report upon the condition and working of the American consulates in Japan, is one of those superficial documents which gives little real information on the state of this country—as regards the Consulates there appears to have been nothing said—and tends to keep up all kinds of illusions in regard to it. The true friend of Japan is he who will tell the truth regarding it. "Paiut me as I am," said Cromwell to Lely. "If you leave out a line or a wart, I won't pay you a

sixpence." Not that we for a moment accuse Mr. Newman of any intentional falsifications. His character, we believe, unimpeachable, and if he was sent on an errand for which he was utterly disqualified by the nature of such education as he had received, and by the extremely inaccurate condition of mind which naturally results from the habit of asserting as true that which is at best but the resultant of a balance of probabilities, and commenting upon these alleged facts in the frothy manner to which pulpit declamation so largely conduces, the fault must be laid at the door of those who despatched him, and not at his own. Any mind must inevitably suffer from the absence of corrective criticism habitually applied to it from external sources, and the *petitio principii* is thus the great vice of the pulpit. But as the lessons of the pulpit inculcating religion and morality are founded upon and illustrated by example and result, rather than based upon severe logical induction, they do not lose their effect upon ordinary minds from this absence of logical coherence; and it is fortunate that this is so. But when we find a mind which has long lost all logical consistency applying itself to questions demanding analysis and correct generalization, we must not be surprised to find it like a ship tossed about on a rough sea, without rudder, pilot or chart. In fact, Mr. Newman had not only no qualifications for his task, but was specially disqualified for it by his antecedents, and thus we can neither be surprised at, nor blame him for, the extremely loose nature of his writing upon the subject he treats.

As regards his observations upon the evasion of duties due to the Government on exports and imports, we commend them to the attention of the Commissioner of Customs. There is probably some truth in them. The old Adam in most of us abhors Custom-Houses.

When Mr. Newman talks about the "permanent progress of Japan depending on a written constitution, defining the duties of her rulers and the rights of her people, and accepted by the latter as the approval of their sovereign will," he must excuse us for saying that he talks nonsense, and betrays an absolute ignorance of the condition and wants of the country. He appears to think a constitution a kind of fetish which may be ignorantly worshipped, and he imagines that the possession of a similar deity is the only thing requisite to bring a nation like the Japanese to a condition abreast of the Anglo-Saxon race. The words "sovereign will" as applied to the voice of the people of Japan mean absolutely nothing. There is no such voice, and if there were, there is no medium for transmitting it to the ears of those who rule. It is like talking about the sound of a bell *in vacuo*, even supposing that the bell has a clapper, which may altogether be doubted. "To create and adopt such a constitution," Mr. Newman goes on to say, "would be to secure to Japan the wealth, the prosperity and power of a first-class nation." If the word constitution means anything as applied to this country, it can only mean an agreement arrived at between the governors and the governed, each speaking by its representatives, and each having the power to insist on, and, if necessary, to wrest from the other, its conceded rights. But it may be doubted whether the Japanese language even contains any word answering to this word "rights," a fact which, if true, shows how little of the reality can exist. Mr. Newman's use of the word "create," as applied to a constitution, shows that he has not got beyond what might be called the Mosaic idea of political creation. It is conceivable that as the national mind becomes informed, especially in regard to the forms of government existing in the Western world, and as the middle class which commerce is now producing grows in wealth and importance, recruited from above from the dispossessed nobility or their descendants, and from below from the peasant or artisan class, the powers which inhere in numbers, wealth and intelligence may assume shape and acquire weight, and gradually form something of an equipoise to the power of those who actually administer the affairs of the country. But this is a development to which the word "create" is but ill applied, and generations may be requisite to produce it. The supposition of any political carpentry by which a constitution can be put together is worthy of a school of thought which fortunately now exercises but little influence upon the

debates of statesmen, and which, however harmless in its own sphere, is but poorly adapted to the practical life of nations. Ideas of this nature may with some possible forgiveness be placed before congregations who recognize in a blameless life a balance which may fairly be set against the unlaboured and inexpensive production of a vast amount of frothy nonsense, but it is a pity they should get into type, or that any Government should have to place the papers which contain them among its archives.

In a recent article in this journal we made an attempt to show what materials existed for the formation in this country of a system of representative Government, and suggested the means by which those materials might be combined. But we carefully excluded any such idea as that the assemblies thus called into being should be entrusted with actual legislative, still less with executive, power, and though our remarks were open to the objection that responsibility is the essential correlative of power, and that therefore the absence of the one is fatal to the existence of the other, we are vain enough to think that our article deserved, as it possibly has received, the study of those who are concerned with the political development of the country. The publication of the debates and recorded conclusions of these assemblies would, we still venture to think, be of great service to the Government, and though we must adhere to our opinion that the power of actually deciding questions, by which, of course, we mean translating decisions into legislative action, should not be conferred on them, we think that such elements of political life as exist among the people would be vivified and stimulated by the processes we suggested, that the Government would become more popular by their adoption, —though it must necessarily part with a share of its power— and that the changes which the Revolution has brought in its train would thus be better understood by the people, and more adapted to their condition, necessities and desires, than they are at present.

When Mr. Newman approaches the question of the national finances, he, of course, flounders about helplessly. We have noticed that nearly all the Americans who write about the finances of Japan seem very angry because the Japanese have borrowed money from English capitalists and pay what they are pleased to call a high interest for it, and Mr. Newman reflects this feeling. But why? The ordinary rate of interest in this country is one per cent per month, and is so over nearly the whole of Asia. But it is constantly one and a-half per cent, often two per cent, and not unfrequently three per cent a month. And if Mr. Newman would condescend to read books treating of such unimportant sciences as political economy he would see the reason why this is so. It would be tedious, and we trust superfluous, to give the reasons here, but half an hour devoted to Mr. Buckle's very clear treatment of the question will, we trust, make it clear even to Mr. Newman, —though a child of light is ordinarily a poor scholar of these mundane trivialities. This being the case, the Japanese may be congratulated on having got their first loan—contracted, be it remembered, when very little was known of the country or the condition in which the Revolution had left it—at something over ten per cent, and their last loan at something over seven per cent. It is quite possible that if they want money again they may get it at something lower still, for the lending nations have an abundance of money. But we have no hesitation in saying that, whatever the Railway, for the construction of which the first million of pounds was borrowed, may have cost, the moral effect of it has been to commend the liberal policy of the Government more to the people than any other work which it has undertaken. The prejudices this work dissipated might have grown into formidable strength, progress might have been indefinitely delayed, and all the sound fermentation we see going on in the Empire, reduced and corrected though it may yet have to be by moderating influences, might, but for it, have turned to bitterness, it not produced some inflammable and explosive compound. This debt Mr. Newman is pleased to reckon among the disadvantages under which the country is labouring. A wiser man would have seen in it a source of great security, and, on the work into which the money has

been converted, a surer guarantee for the advancement of this country than perhaps anything else visible in Japan at this moment.

Lastly, Mr. Newman says:—"Japan is now developing her vast metallic and mineral resources, which will prove a revenue of immense wealth." Unfortunately, this is just what Japan is not doing, and what we ardently wish she would do. For all practical purposes she is just scratching the surface of her mineral resources, and the doing of this, far from bringing her immense wealth, is likely to cost her twenty five shillings for every sovereign's worth of metal or mineral she extracts.

Of course, no one wishes to see any gold mines Japan possesses thrown open to the world, to the Australian and Californian digger or the adventurer from anywhere else. Any such ill advised course would lead in a week to trouble which months would not reduce. But what we should like to see is the introduction, under proper guarantees, of European capital, intelligence and skill to work these resources and turn them to account for the country. No Board of Works or of Mines can ever do this. It will report and report, and examine, and assay, and draw salaries, and there will be many letters written, and a vast deal of "having the honour to be," and large bills for stationery, red tape and sealing wax. But there will be no true work done,—or no such work done as leaves a profit of five shillings on every pound spent. "Private enterprise with royalties to the Government:" that is the scheme for working the mineral resources of this country; and any other is "leather and prunella."

We have not treated Mr. Newman's Report—or rather the abstract of it made by the *Tribune*—with any great respect. But we keep our respect, a quality in which we are not deficient, for things which deserve it.

The following appears in the letter of the Yokohama correspondent of the *San Francisco Bulletin*, and is believed to have been written gravely:—

BRITISH INTRIGUES.

British merchants and contractors residing here, would gladly goad the people of Japan into a foreign war, by circulating a forced construction or unjust distortion of a simple matter. There are people in the world who would burn a dwelling to obtain employment in saving its furniture. At present, a foreign war would so weaken Japan as to allow her to become an easy prey in the hands of England who, looking upon her as the key to the Orient in the Pacific, would hazard much to possess her. It is surmised that England would smile complacently at a foreign war waged by Japan to open Corea, and would stand ready to bag every chestnut as fast as Oriental's cat's paws could snatch them from the flaming embers of such a war. There are British subjects here who would gladly see Japan rush blindly ahead, running in debt to Manchester and Birmingham, and, by thus weakening herself, fall an easy prey to their country's love of conquest. The remark is heard here every day, that England is but awaiting her time, when she may successfully repeat the experience of India in Japan. By a large number of foreign residents it is already accepted as a foregone conclusion. The next few years will decide this question of sovereignty—under certain circumstances, two years may—in all cases twenty most certainly will, for the world moves rapidly in our day, and its leaven is working in the Orient. The only knotty question calculated to embarrass England in such a step will be the disposition of existing treaties made by Japan with other sovereignties.

There is a story told of Charles Lamb being in company with some ardent phrenologist, at the close of whose discourse upon his favourite science—for science he supposed it to be—Lamb turned round to a stranger sitting next him and said: "Will the gentleman allow me to look at his organs; I have a great wish to look at this gentleman's organs." Similarly, we should greatly like to examine the organs of the gentleman who wrote this amazing paragraph. They would, we imagine, afford grounds for some interesting speculations.

Mr. Pauncefort gave a second reading at the Grand Hotel on Wednesday last, and if we felt sorry for the small attendance on the first occasion, we felt doubly so on this, when there could have been barely more than forty people present. Under these circumstances the Reader deserved more than usual praise for the energy and force which he threw into the reading of Dickens' Christmas story, entitled "Dr. Mari-

gold." Despite the poorness of the material with which he worked, Mr. Pauncefort succeeded in keeping his audience interested from the beginning to the end, his humour and his pathos were both excellent, and on more than one occasion he fairly carried his listeners with him to the realms both of laughter and of tears. The death of Little Sophy was admirably rendered, and the account of the giant, "otherwise Pickleson," was intensely amusing. But yet we cannot help thinking that Mr. Pauncefort might have chosen a selection which would have proved more generally interesting to the audience, and better fitted to display his undoubted talents as a delineator. If the works of Dickens must be chosen, surely there is a wide field in the ever fresh and ever amusing "Pickwick," or any other of those standard works by which his name has been made a household word in our midst, instead of going to others of his Christmas stories, which all savour more or less of being manufactured for the annual festive market, and some of which lack that spontaneous flow of wit and humour which are to be found to so large a degree in many of his other productions. The Irish ballad which followed was given with an admirable brogue, but had still the same fault in its selection which characterized the first, namely, that it lacked interest—whilst the "Bab Ballad" which brought the evening to a close, was perhaps too lugubrious to send people home in any very extravagant state of mirth.

We venture these suggestions because we have a very high opinion of Mr. Pauncefort's talents as an actor and reader, and should be glad to hear him read again to a large audience before he leaves our settlement, and we feel sure that if a popular programme is put forward, the audience will not be wanting. During the evening Mr. Marsh played two or three selections for the piano-forte with great taste.

We feel it necessary to notice a paragraph in the *Hio-go News* regarding the authorship of a series of very valuable articles which have recently appeared in the *Japan Weekly Mail* on the subject of education in Japan. Every one capable of forming a correct judgment must have been struck by the earnest purpose, the comprehensive treatment, and the extensive knowledge of the subject which have characterized these articles. The question they treat is one on which their author and the editor of this journal have had much conversation, and the articles have been written and published with the single desire of improving that section of the educational system of this country which was susceptible of such improvement by the means adopted. Regarding, as we did, the question of education in Japan as one of fundamental importance in view of the present condition of the country, its hopes and onward movement—a movement which will be for good or evil according as the rising generation is more or less soundly instructed—our endeavour was to direct the earnest attention of the authorities of the Board of Education to it in all its various bearings. When it is remembered that the scholars of this generation must be the teachers of the next, and that as they are better or worse fitted for their office so their guidance will bring forth good, indifferent, or evil fruit, all who are interested in the future of the country should hail with pleasure an effort made to deal with a question which vitally affects the future of this movement.

To the credit of the Japanese it may be here said that these articles have been translated with great care for the authorities of the Department, and that certain reforms and appointments in it have already been made which show that the ideas of the writer have found acceptance and been recognized as wise and practical.

We refuse to reprint the paragraph referred to, and should have paid no attention to it had it merely related to this journal. But as it presumes to assail the character and motives of one whose work in this country has been as thorough and earnest as his sense of duty is high and his aptitude for his task is great; as it has presumed to impute unworthiness to him of which he is as incapable as the writer of the paragraph must be of understanding what the words virtue and honour mean, we feel bound to notice it, remarking only in conclusion as regards ourselves, that, if the author imagines that the clam of men of

whom he speaks have any chance of access to the public ear by means of the *Japan Mail*, he vastly mistakes the intentions, motives and associates of its conductor.

NATIVE papers dwell upon the rapid progress made by the military students under the French Military Mission. The Officers arrived only in 1872; but their judicious teaching, combined with strictness of discipline, has already borne excellent fruit.

Several of the pupils have received commissions in the army; and many have so far advanced as to receive certificates of competency.—*Japan Gazette*.

THE verdict of the jury at the inquest on the body of William Wishart, found dead in the municipal police cell on the morning of the 8th instant, the following addition:—

"The jury feel it their duty to call attention to the inadequate supply of blankets provided at the station, and request H. B. M.'s Consul to bring this matter to the notice of the proper authority; as also the desirability of keeping the cells at a fair temperature of warmth during cold weather, and of seeing that there is proper ventilation in summer."

THE P. & O. steamer *Madras* with mails from Europe left Hongkong at 7 A.M. on the 8th instant, and may be expected here about Thursday next, the 15th instant.

THE town of Shimonoseki is said to have been burnt down.

DESTRUCTION OF THE GREAT TEMPLE OF SHIBA.

At one o'clock of the morning of the 1st of January, an alarm of fire was given by the bells of the Shiba quarter, and, in less than half an hour, repeated in every part of Yedo. The unusual summons for assistance created an apprehension that another disastrous conflagration like that of the 9th December was expected, and, indeed, the brilliant light which shot up from the centre of the city was sufficient, at the first sight, to warrant such a conclusion. No such mass of flame had been witnessed since the burning of the Monzeki temple, in April, 1872, and the effect was naturally intensified by the darkness of the night. Numbers of foreigners, as well as a multitude of citizens, speedily gathered upon the scene, and watched the gradual destruction of the largest, and most imposing in appearance, of the temples of Zozo. It was soon apparent, however, that no danger of a general conflagration need be anticipated. The night was perfectly calm, and as the flame and smoke rose almost perpendicularly, so the sparks fell within too short a distance to render any communication of the fire at all probable. The surrounding shrines and temples were at no time imperilled, and still less the residences of the numerous foreign employés of the Government who occupy contiguous buildings. The cause of the universal alarm, at the outset, was the startling volume and fierceness of the blaze, which those who are familiar with the construction of the building will be at no loss to account for. For more than an hour after the first outbreak, an enormous jet of unbroken flame, singularly varied in colour, owing to the fusion of different metallic substances, sprang upward like a volcanic discharge, and threw a glare over the city such as no inhabitant of this generation had ever before seen.

Yedo has the most easily awakened populace in the world, and in less than a quarter of an hour after the first bell had sounded, all the avenues leading to the great gate were blockaded. The police, arriving soon after, cleared the space immediately in front of the temple, and admitted none beyond the two-storied porch excepting officers, firemen, and such foreigners as were attracted to the spot. These latter, as the morning advanced, gathered in great force, and discussed, in groups, the causes of the fire, and the proper method of its extinction, with customary assurance and impracticability. For the firemen there was little work to do, and it is a question whether, on this occasion, they might not as well have stayed at home. The temple was doomed before they were called upon, and except to make a show of resistance by arraying themselves with their ancestral standard in

front of, and, at times, inside, the consuming edifice, there was no opportunity for the display of their energy and courage. The bell-tower, near the north-eastern corner of the temple, could not be protected, on account of the excessive heat, which instantly absorbed all the water that could be applied by the ineffective Japanese engines; and, in course of time, it burst into a sudden blaze, almost without warning, and without having been directly touched by either spark or flame. Until this moment, and, indeed, for as long after as the heat could be tolerated, the great bell was steadily rung by a party of enthusiasts, who seemed to regard it as their duty to help it to sound its protest against the devastation. Another labour of the firemen, possibly useful, though not clearly so, was the drenching of the inner side of the gate. It did not appear that this structure was menaced at any time, and, beyond the limits of the central building and the bell-house, no flame was kindled, except, now add then, upon the tips of the nearest pine trees.

But although the firemen found it impossible to fulfil their natural mission with satisfactory results, they succeeded at one period, unconsciously to themselves, in producing a thrilling dramatic effect that would have stirred the soul of Nero, who, in spite of all the historians, was a prince of keen æsthetic sensibilities, and who rhapsodized upon the fiddle when Rome was burning purely from uncontrollable emotion, and from the utter inadequacy of ordinary methods to express his sense of the majesty of the spectacle. At about half-past one o'clock, when it seemed as if the whole building was wrapped in impenetrable flame, the front wall, beneath the eaves, fell outward, disclosing what at first view was nothing but a maze of lurid flame and eddying smoke. But presently, out of the confusion of the crash, came the outline of a row of human beings, standing immovable upon the interior platform of the temple. When the smoke lifted, these became distinctly visible. They were the leaders of the fire brigade, perhaps some fifty in number, planted in a double line, grasping their strange standards, and surveying the scene with the stolidity of statues. Their uncouth head-dresses, parti-colored clothes and livid faces, lighted up by the flames which swept around them and scorched the emblems which they held, made a picture so ghastly and unearthly, in its blazing framework, that it could hardly be looked upon without a shudder. Similar effects have doubtless been experienced by many who have witnessed the appliances of theatrical art, in situations of mimic terror like those of "Don Juan" and "Robert;" but here the drama was real, and the reckless exposure of life might at any moment have turned it to a tragedy. Over and over again, a curtain of fire passed between the motionless figures and the few spectators who had then assembled, and rose again, disclosing the same unchanged array, like nothing before imaginable in this world, but like what the painter Martin might have conceived as a pageant of Pandemonium. Whatever the impulse that moves these men, it is heroic in its way. Even if nothing more than a superstition, it ceases to be contemptible when it leads to such efforts of successful daring as they sometimes execute. But it is probably something altogether beyond a superstition. The Japanese themselves deride the idea of the efficacy of "fire-gods" upon any such theory as foreigners usually attribute to them, and say that these standard-bearers assume the positions of danger in which they are always seen, solely as an example of hardihood and devotion, to stimulate zeal of their followers. In the present case, they stood until a part of the roof had fallen in, and then, quite unseen amidst the mass of smoke which followed, withdrew, nobody but themselves knew how, and presently reappeared in the gallery of the lofty gate, where they presented an aspect as weird as before; though no longer surrounded by exciting peril.

By three o'clock, the temple, excepting a few of the thick columns that had supported the roof, was a pile of embers. The burning belfry then attracted attention. The bell itself had become red hot, and apparently had cracked, although it was impossible to be certain on that point. A little later it fell from its timbers, and remained standing nearly upright upon the ground. Of the great bells of Japan, only one, that of Nara, now continues in service. The Uyeno bell was

broken years ago; and that of Kioto, the relic of Taiko Sama's colossal temple, fell during a fire sometime in the last century, and has never been re-hung. The misfortune of losing these vestiges of former days is that there is no hope that they will ever be replaced. The Shiba bell was two hundred years old. The temple was of a still earlier date, although frequent repairs have abridged the dignity of its extreme antiquity. Although it did not possess the sacredness of the smaller adjoining shrines, it was the most conspicuous object of the place, and that which constituted its greatest picturesqueness. Shiba stands now in somewhat the same condition as Ueno. The small temples, especially devoted to the memory of the buried Shoguns, are unharmed, but the central splendor of the locality is extinguished. The gate remains, the last specimen in Yedo of the fine entrances which formerly stood before all the large religious houses. The temple itself was not actually the first in size. That of Asakusa is of about the same dimensions, and the old Monzeki temple, situated between Asakusa and Ueno, is said to occupy a somewhat broader space. Since the morning of the fire, the square in front of Zozoji has been enclosed with high fences, and no person is allowed to visit the ruins.—*Japan Herald*.

A MEETING of the Asiatic Society of Japan will be held on Wednesday next, at 8.30 p.m., in Room No. 19 of the Grand Hotel, when a paper by Captain S. T. Bridgford, R. N. A., will be read, entitled, "Yezo. A description of the Ishikari River, and the New Capital Satsuporo."

YESTERDAY afternoon an inquest was held at the British Consulate on the body of William Wishart, who yesterday morning was found dead in one of the Police cells, Honcho Dori. The post mortem examination showed a congestion of the lungs and a fatty degeneration about liver, kidney's and heart. The jury returned a verdict of "died from natural causes."

THE Manager of the Temperance Hall, Mr. Penoyer, has absconded with about \$150, belonging to the above institution. He is supposed to have left in the *J. S. Stone* for New York.

THE steamer "*Vasco de Gama*" was signalled two days sail from Hongkong and would probably arrive there about the 31st ultimo, so that she is now on her way to this port.

The *Vancouver*, the second steamer of the line was successfully launched on the 18th November.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

PATIENTS UNDER TREATMENT DURING NOVEMBER, 1873.

Class of Patients.	Remained from November.	Admitted during Dec.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained Dec. 31st.	Total Treated.
1st	0	1	0	0	1	1
2nd	0	1	1	0	0	1
3rd	5	2	2	0	5	7
4th	2	0	2	0	0	2
Charity	1	2	1	0	2	3
Total	8	6	6	0	8	14

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

YOKOHAMA STATION.

6th January, 1874.

Statement of Traffic Receipts for the week ending Sunday, 4th January, 1874.

Passengers.....20,486. Amount.....\$5,920.79
Goods, Parcels, &c..... 429.39

Total.....\$6,350.18

Average per mile per week \$352.79.

Miles open, 13.

Corresponding week 1873.

Number of Passengers 24,172. Amount \$7,384.68.

EDUCATION IN JAPAN.

V.

THE OLD EDUCATION.

THE secular teacher's vocation can scarcely be said to have existed prior to the days of IYETASU. Previous to his times there were many learned men in the country, and especially at Kioto, but education was in the hands of the priests, to very much the same extent as in Europe, prior to the Reformation. The bonzes of Japan are to be credited with being mainly instrumental in spreading a knowledge of the rudiments of education throughout the length and breadth of the empire, since it is certain that the establishment of Japanese Buddhism has been co-extensive with the language. During the many centuries previous to IYETASU's time, the warrior class—a very numerous one—like the knights of medieval Europe despised a knowledge of letters as beneath the dignity of a soldier, and worthy only of the bard and priest. Hence in Japanese medieval history, as in European, the shaven-pated and robed priest nearly always figures on state occasions.

The profound peace enjoyed throughout the empire during the dynasty of the Tokugawa Shoguns made possible the rise and honorable recognition of the secular teacher as an influential and respected member of society. During this era of peace and seeming prosperity, education was formed into the system which we shall endeavour to describe in this article. Japanese literati regard the latter part of the last and the first part of the present century as the period during which Japanese learning and literature flourished most, but the technical organization of the schools and means of culture, according to the old order of things, was most perfect at the time of the appearance of Commodore PERRY at Uraga.

The chief centres of learning were at Kioto and Yedo, in which cities the highest educational institutions existed, and which may out of compliment be called universities. Kioto was the seat of ecclesiastical and æsthetic learning, and the Kioto literati excelled in the cultivation of the pure Japanese language, both in its ancient and modern forms. In Yedo was the highest seat of Chinese learning in the land. Besides the schools and literary activity of the two capitals, there was in nearly every daimio's provincial capital a school for the instruction of the sons of the *samurai*.

These schools, which numbered more than a hundred, and maintained a nearly uniform standard of excellence, were established solely for the benefit of the *samurai* class. The sons of merchants or farmers were not allowed to enter them, and no public provision was made for their instruction. The education of these boys, as well as that of the daughters of the *samurai*, was left to parents or private tutors. Whatever knowledge the children of lower classes could pick up was obtained from the priest, their parents, or in the private schools, of which there were many in every great city, and one in every large village. So general, indeed, was the existence of private schools and schoolmasters, that, in the absence of exact statistics, it is very probably safe to say that three-fourths of the population of Japan could then, as now, read and write the *kana*, reckon on the *abacus*, and read the easy literature which is published in the *kana* character.

The writer spent one year in one of the largest of these schools for *samurai* in the capital of one of the most enterprising clans, and thus saw the old system in full operation. The following sketch is drawn mainly from the published catalogue of that school, and has been compared with those of other schools in other pro-

vinces of the empire. An examination and comparison of several catalogues of schools in different daimios' capitals, and of the Chinese college in Yedo, shows that the curriculum followed in them all was essentially the same.

The Japanese lad began his education at the age of six or seven years. There were three grades of schools, corresponding to our Primary, Grammar and High Schools. They were called *Sho Gakko*, *Chiu Gakko*, *Dai Gakko*. The literal translation of these names is Small School, Middle School, and Great School. In many of the daimios' capitals, the *Dai Gakko* or Great School was wanting. The *Dai Gakko* in Yedo might with some show of propriety be called an university.

The Japanese pupil took his first steps in learning by mastering the *hirakana* and *katakana*, or script and square character, which represent what the Japanese call the "fifty sounds," and which they speak of as "*our kana*." Every Japanese lad must know how to read and write both styles of *kana* text before he begins the study of Chinese characters. The average boy spent five years in the *Sho Gakko*. During the first year, he began the study of the Chinese classics, the *Shi-Sho* (Four Books) and the *Go Ki* (Five Classics). The method of learning these books was to go through each one, studying the sound only of each character. A Japanese lad must therefore know the sound of every character in the book, before he has an idea of what a single one of them means. This is as if an English boy attacking Homer or the Hebrew Bible were to learn to read the book through, pronouncing every word carefully, but knowing nothing of its meaning or the construction of the language. Instead of less than forty letters, accents, or diacritical points, however, the Japanese lad must learn nearly two thousand characters, and several hundred sounds, before he receives an explanation of their meaning. The books mastered as to sense and meaning during the five years spent in the *Sho Gakko* were the Small Learning—the Moral Duties of Man; Confucius' Four Books of Morals; the Three Character Book of Morals; the Book of Filial Duties; the Book of Great Lineage—Ancestry of the Mikado; and the Entrance to Knowledge—Duties of cleanliness, Obedience, etc.

The scholar's work during the first year was with *kana* and the sounds of the Chinese characters. In the second year the writing of Chinese characters was begun and continued hence forward as a never-ending part of his education. He learned to write the names of all the Emperors from the first to the living monarch; the names of large cities, provinces, and the geographical divisions of Japan, his own name and that of his family, the names of streets, familiar objects, the characters for points of the compass, the seasons, names of countries, of years, chronological era, etc., and to read and copy the imperial proclamations and the edicts on the notice-boards.

During the third year, the Japanese lad learned the four rudimental rules of arithmetic, and the use of the *abacus*—a point at which the mathematical education of the vast majority of Japanese ended. He also read the Book of Heroes—a reader containing biographies of model men and women, moral anecdotes, accounts of virtuous and noble actions, etc. The study of the Chinese classics was continued. Much time was spent in writing Chinese characters, and several hours a week were given to the practical study of etiquette, how to walk, to bow, to visit, to talk, etc. Examinations were held twice a year, at which the daimio or high officials were present and delivered prizes to the most diligent and successful, who

were then graduated into the Middle School, or *Chiu Gakko*.

Hitherto the education was moral and intellectual. In the Middle School the physical education of the lads began. The course comprised three years, during which time daily lessons in either fencing, wrestling or spear-exercise, and a monthly practice on horseback under expert instructors, were parts of the curriculum. It would be tedious to detail all the studies of the Middle School, but in substance they were simply an advance on the same line of studies of the Small School. The lads read the History of China, the Book of Rhetoric, or composition in Chinese, a brief history of Japan, and a large book of Japanese strategy, containing remarkable feats in war, narratives of heroes, &c. In writing, they learned the various styles of Chinese writing, the 'square,' 'seal,' and 'grass' characters, how to write official and private letters, both original and after models. In arithmetic, they learned to count large numerical quantities, and to solve problems by the four fundamental rules. They studied the topography of Japan with considerable thoroughness, and read an epitome of universal geography.

In the *Dai Gakko* or High School, the students spent more time in the gymnasium and on the riding course, becoming proficient in riding, wrestling, archery, fencing, long and short spear exercise, and in the various arts by which an unarmed man may defend his life and injure his enemy. His reading now took a higher range, embracing such well known historical classics as the *Nihon Seki*, *Nihon Guaiishi*, *Dai Nihon Shi*, *Jigo Kiriaku*, *Kocho Shiriaku*. These histories detail the annals of Japan from the Golden Age until the time of IREYASU, and less fully to a period "within the memory of men now living." Most of them are written in very fine style, and are much admired by the natives of Japan. In arithmetic, vulgar and decimal fractions, the rule of three, involution, evolution, and progression were taught. A little Algebra was introduced into some of the schools, but only a small minority of students reached the maximum of mathematical studies presented above.

In the *Sei Do*, or old Chinese College in Yedo, the course of literary studies ranged somewhat higher. Original composition in Chinese was made a specialty. The subjects assigned for essays were usually problems relating to the government of a state. The student wrote out in good literary style his opinions and method of solution, and supported his thesis by references to and quotations from, the Chinese classics and Japanese historical works. At the Chinese College, students, after completing the curriculum, could remain at the College and enter on advanced studies in Chinese literature and composition, under the tutorship of the learned men connected with the institution. The library comprised 110,000 volumes of Chinese and Japanese literature.

The usual time allotted for study in all the schools was six hours a day, from 6 to 12 A.M. in summer, from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. in the spring and autumn, and from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. in winter. No long vacation was given in summer, but the regular holidays throughout the year were rather numerous, and at the beginning of the year the schools were closed for several weeks. The school-furniture was the usual furniture of a Japanese room, tables one foot high, seats on the floor, and racks for swords. The writing pupils were provided with large inkstones and brushes, and knelt in rows at their work. A writing class might be very large, but a reading class rarely numbered over eight, and ordinarily but six. The usual arrangements for preparing tea, and setting out luncheon for the pupils were duly

provided. Large earthen-floored rooms were provided for the wrestlers. Sometimes these rooms were matted. For spear exercise, and fencing, the floors were boarded and often made purposely slippery. Each school had large supplies of bamboo foils, and the defensive armour, masks, gloves and corslets, necessary for the rough work of fencing. Bruises were common, even when the body was thus protected. The riding course was usually beside the daimio's stable, in which from ten to two hundred horses—the property of the clan—were kept. The students were often purposely exercised in very cold weather, to harden and inure them to exposure and pain. Connected with and living upon each school there was the usual great army of *yakusins*, clerks and servants of every sort and grade.

In general the disciplinary rules of the schools were strictly observed. Each scholar must wear the *kakama*, or *samurai's* trowsers. If late he could not enter the school for that day. When once in he was not allowed to leave till school was out. The rewards at the end of the year were pieces of silk, ink, stones, brush-pens, paper, silver coin, and the highest, at the Chinese College in Yedo, was a robe on which the crest of the Shōgun was embroidered, with privilege of always wearing the garment in public. The most common punishments were confinement to the room or house, whipping on the front of the leg or on the back, walking up and down for several hours with a writing-table on the head, having the moxa burned on the fore finger, etc. Of the teachers, some taught only the sound of the characters, others the meaning of the separate characters, others were expounders or exegetes. Writing, arithmetic, and each athletic exercise was taught by a special instructor. Few of the teachers made teaching their permanent work, and of the scholars, probably not more than a third completed the full course of studies. It was absolutely necessary, however, that a *samurai* should have been at least through the *Sho Gakko*. Without this rudimentary education, no *samurai* could become a householder.

From a survey of the old education in Japan, thus roughly sketched, one is helped in his effort to understand the mind and temper of the *samurai*—the pronounced representative of Japanese culture, ideas and civilization, and the calibre and intellectual fibre of the scholars whom such an education produced. It gave the Japanese youth the merest scraps of information about other countries outside of Japan and China. It gave him a wonderful dexterity in the manipulation of the pen, a minute knowledge of the history of two Asiatic countries, it trained the memory, and stored the mind with a few facts and many precepts. It made the Japanese boy obedient, respectful to superiors, and reverent to parental and government authority, to such an extent indeed, as to destroy all manly self-reliance. It gave him a strong, healthy and muscular body. It made him an athlete and a warrior, inured him to pain, and taught him to despise death. His long training in the atheistic morals of Confucius and Mencius gave him a reverence for antiquity and literary authority, and made him skeptical to any form of supernatural religion. It made him loyal, rather than patriotic; his clan and lord were his idols, rather than his country and people. It perfected him in feats of moral strategy, and made him crafty and sinuous. It was the education perfectly fitted to conserve the unique state of society in Japan, in which a class of governing military-literati, secularly educated, lived among an inferior mass of people religiously educated. Confucius, the historical classics, the sword, government and privilege, were on one side; Buddha, the bonze,

the tools of labour, unquestioning submission, were on the other. In such a state of society and under such an education, the *samurai* of the noblest type was courteous, temperate, forbearing, faithful to promises, filial, loyal, skeptical, ready to face an enemy or death, proud of his clan and lord first and of his country next, kind to inferiors, loftily scornful of trade, useful labour or knowledge, a soldier, a scholar, a gentleman. A *samurai* of the lower type was at times craftily courteous and insolently rude, loved lying so much as to reduce it to a fine art, delighted to attack an enemy—in the rear, delighted in abject servility to superiors and swaggering brutality to inferiors, was pedantic in learning, boastful in speech, intemperate and sensual in living, with even a more loftily towering contempt for honest industry and useful labour, and looked upon the man who ate his own bread and earned his own living as the vilest of vermin.

In setting forth this view of the old education in Japan, it has been our one object to give correct information. We shall be sorry, however, if it does not lead the foreign reader, and especially the foreign servant of the Japanese Government, to exercise forbearance and charity in his judgment of Japanese officials. Trained as they have been, how could they have become else than narrow in their mental vision? The common-place expression of every foreigner is this:—"Oh! the Japanese are just like children, and must be treated as such." We are not yet prepared to accept this easy judgment so often passed upon them, and it is because we believe that they are men, though often men of narrow mind, that we have not spared, nor will we spare, free criticism of their actions. Even since the beginning of this series of articles on Education, they have shown that they are not impervious to criticism, and have begun certain reforms which are entirely manly, and not at all childish. If the Japanese mind be inferior to that of the European, we believe that it is on account of circumstances and education. We believe that the potential nature of the native of this land is equal to that of his foreign rivals. The grand experiment of a settlement of the question whether it be so or not, is now being tried. Among the means used for solution—for changing potential nature into actual development, and demonstrated ability to gain and hold a higher plane of thought action, and mental and material conquest—that of education is the most important. No man sees more clearly the defects of the old education in Japan than some of the Japanese themselves, and none are more eager to destroy the old and to introduce the new, than they. That it is potential in the Japanese mind to become the equal of the European, is our firm belief. To that work of education by which the men of this country shall be equipped with all the intellectual weapons, and furnished with all the aids to mental power, by which the native of this land, as a thinking, feeling and willing man, may become greater and rise higher, the very best personal talent and all the available means and energies of the nation should be ungrudgingly devoted.

JAPANESE NOTES.

GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS.

No. 424.

TO THE KAITAKUSHI, *Fu* AND *Ken*:—

Regulations for the proportionate taxation of good service pensions (honorary incomes excepted) received by nobles and gentlemen, having been framed, from the 7th year of Meiji, when family incomes are paid by the Local Government, all taxes on them shall be collected, and the taxes with register of same, shall be sent in to the *Ôkurashô*. This is communicated to you.

27th day 12th month, 6th year of Meiji.

SANJÔ SANEYOSHI,
Daijô-Daijin.

No. 425.

TO THE KAITAKUSHI, *Fu* AND *Ken*:—

A Proclamation was issued in the 12th month of the 4th year of Meiji that nobles (*kuazoku*), gentlemen (*samurai*) and *sotsu*, those in official employment excepted, were henceforth permitted to carry on the callings of husbandmen, artisans and merchants, but as it has come to our ears that persons with small incomes are unable to accomplish their wishes owing probably to want of the necessary capital, we have framed the annexed scheme for their special benefit, by which the surrender to the Government of family incomes and good service pensions, less than 100 *koku* in annual amount is allowed. Those, therefore, who wish to surrender them must make a petition to that effect to their Local Governments. You will make this Proclamation known to gentlemen (*samurai*) and former *sotsu*.

NOTE.—Those who make a petition according to the text need not pay any tax on their incomes.

27th day of the 6th month of the 6th year of Meiji.

No. 426.

Whereas it has been proclaimed that the petitions of persons of the rank of gentlemen (*samurai*) and *sotsu*, whose family incomes are less than 100 *koku* of annual value, to give up their incomes to the Government, shall be granted, they must comply with the annexed Regulations and each case shall be dealt with accordingly. This information is communicated.

REGULATIONS FOR GIVING CAPITAL TO PERSONS WHO
GIVE UP THEIR INCOMES TO THE GOVERNMENT.

1.—To persons whose family incomes and good service pensions do not amount to 100 *koku*, who henceforth petition to surrender them, the sum of six years income is given to those who hold hereditary incomes, and the sum of four years income to those who hold incomes during life, to serve as capital for trade.

2.—The whole amount mentioned in the preceding article shall be turned into money according to the market price of rice when the taxes are paid this year in each *Fu* and *Ken*. Half shall be paid in cash and half by Government bonds. 8 per cent. a year on these Government bonds will be paid on the 11th month of each year by the local authorities.

NOTE.—As five classes of Government bonds have been made, viz., 500, 300, 100, 50 and 25 *yen*, according to the sum, the difference between it and any of these classes must be either added to or subtracted from it.

3.—Persons can, if they wish, sell or mortgage these bonds to any one, but foreigners. The mode of transaction is the same as if they had been newly issued by the Government. The details of this will form another Proclamation.

4.—After the third year of issue these bonds shall be exchanged into ready money at the convenience of the Government during the space of seven years.

5.—When 'one-life' *sotsu* whose names have been already entered on the register of husbandmen, and who are entitled to incomes for their own life time, request to give them up, permission will be given in accordance with the previous article.

6.—If persons whose incomes are limited to a certain number of years petition to give them up, the periods for which they have been already paid and still remaining to be paid must be ascertained and specially referred by the Local Government to the *Ôkurashô*.

7.—Persons who have changed their Local Government must apply to their original Local Government from which they have up to this time received their incomes.

8.—The cases of those who wish to pursue the calling of husbandmen or graziers shall be dealt with according to the Regulations for selling those portions of Government forests, paddy and arable land, waste land, &c., which are not wanted for Government use.

RULES FOR SELLING WASTE LAND AND GOVERNMENT
FORESTS TO PROVIDE CAPITAL FOR
(PERSONS WISHING TO PURSUE) ANY CALLING.

1.—Paddy land, arable land, castle-grounds, the sites of old *yashiki*, waste-lands, hills, forests, &c., belonging to the crown, the sale of which does not inconvenience the original villages, or associated villages or the Government, shall be made over to such persons as after surrendering their family incomes and receiving capital, shall petition for the sale of the same with the object of undertaking farming or grazing, at half the fair price; and they must send in to their local Government up to the 30th day of the following sixth month sealed applications according to the form in the appendix.

Persons desirous of obtaining land under a local Government, other than their own, must apply through their original local Government to the Government of the district in which they desire to buy the land, within the above-named fixed period. Persons who apply after the expiration of that period shall purchase land by sending in tenders.

NOTE.—Lands which are for sale shall be sold at half the real price, houses and trees on them shall be sold at their market value.

2.—A day being fixed for opening the tenders for land which persons petition the Government to sell, the petitioners assemble, and after tenders have been opened the 1st, 2nd and 3rd degree of tenders shall be reported to the *Ôkurashô*. When two or more persons tender the same price they shall have their tenders taken according to the date on which they send them in.

3.—Upon permission being given to sell land the local Government shall give orders for payment to be made and shall give a title-deed for the land—on the face of the deed the market value is written. After the time fixed for bringing the ground under cultivation has passed and a tax is levied the deed shall be revised.

4.—With respect to the limit to the number of *tsubos* sold to each person. Because this depends on whether the number of petitioners is great or small, and whether the land for sale is extensive or not, the local Authorities shall exercise their judgment and report to the *Ôkurashô*.

NOTE.—(Allotments of) paddy and arable land, also land formerly occupied by castles or *yashiki*, shall be restricted to 3,000 *tsubos* and under; wasteland to 9,000 *tsubos* and under; mount forest land to 15,000 *tsubos* and under; 1,500 *tsubos* of paddy and arable land and 7,500 of mount forest land may be sold together. Moreover, there is no restriction made in the case of extensive districts in Mutsu and Dewa, and in distant parts of all the provinces, but the extent shall be ascertained and reported according to the above regulation.

5.—When the Government considers that the price offered for the land is not the market value of it, the sale shall be prohibited.

6.—The price of land, houses and trees shall be paid in one sum.

7.—Cultivated portions of paddy and arable land shall pay taxes from the first as heretofore. The amount of tax to be paid on land on which taxes have not been previously fixed shall be settled by comparison with that paid on neighbouring land. Land with title-deeds shall pay 3% land tax. Land subject to old regulations shall pay the old tax of rice and money.

8.—Land formerly occupied by Castles or *yashiki* shall be tax free for 10 years in order to have it worked;

waste land for 15 ; portions of mount, forest, land for 20 years.

The amount of tax to be paid on land where forests and trees are left in their original state shall be ascertained by comparing it with neighbouring land.

9.—Land which has been sold by the Government is not transferable during the years it is under cultivation, and mortgaging it shall be strictly forbidden.

NOTE.—If the proprietor during a long illness cannot get any of his relations to help him, or if persons have unavoidable reasons (for not cultivating the ground) they must inform the local Government of all the particulars and obey any orders.

10.—Persons who petition the Government to sell land and lend their names to others, or those who make false statements, as to the number of trees and do other wrong acts, if these things come to light after the sale, even though they are cultivating the ground or even have completed the cultivation of it, shall have the said land taken from them and the owner and his associates shall receive condign punishment. If the said land has been sold the same punishment shall be decreed.

OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD.

PART VII.

Hear the loud alarm bells—
Brazen bells !

What a tale of terror, now, their turbulency tells !

In the startled ear of night

How they scream out their affright !

Too much horrified to speak,

They can only shriek, shriek,

Out of tune,

In a clamorous appealing to the mercy of the fire,

In a mad expostulation with the deaf and frantic fire.

Leaping higher, higher, higher,

With a desperate desire,

And a resolute endeavour

Now—now to sit or never,

By the side of the pale-faced moon.

Oh, the bells, bells, bells !

What a tale their terror tells

Of Despair !

How they clang, and clash, and roar !

What a horror they outpour

On the bosom of the palpitating air !

Yet the ear distinctly tells,

How the danger sinks and swells,

By the sinking or the swelling in the anger of the bells—

Of the bells—

Of the bells, bells, bells, bells,

Bells, bells, bells—

In the clamour and the clangour of the bells !

"The Bells"—Edgar Poe.

There is commotion and distress in "Our Neighbourhood;" grief not unmingled with despair. Old neighbours shake their heads, and sigh, and say that "Times are changed, indeed; things are not as they were." And the youngsters, old fashioned before their time by reason of their need to work for their daily food from tender years, imitate their seniors and look grave. An old friend is gone. The great Bell of Shiba is no more ! As the polestar to the mariner, so was the Bell of Shiba to the simple-minded neighbours. For twice a hundred revolving years it's glorious monody was heard, telling to the farmer by the clear or muffled tone of its vibrations, a coming change of weather. To the old folks listening to its peal from early infancy to green old age its familiar voice spoke hopefully in youth, encouragingly at man's estate, solemnly in life's decline. And now—it will never more be heard ! Its voice is silenced for ever. Its last expiring note was throbbled out on the chill night air of new year's eve, when the roaring flames which swallowed up the temple beside which it had hung for so many years extended their fatal embrace to the structure which surrounded it, and temple and bell, so long associated, perished together.

Two hundred and two years ago the third Shogun Iyemitsuko superintended the casting of this bell, and presented it to the temple of Zojôji. A princely gift ! It is said that of a still summer's night, as its golden notes rolled forth, the country round for incredible distances was flooded with the melody.

Nay, that the Daimio of Odawarra in his castle could hear on such occasions the mellow music, now swelling and now falling as wave piled on wave, crested, rolled shoreward, and was broken.

Alas ! for the grand old bell. Its deep toned vibrations will never again diffuse themselves in eddying circles at dead of night across the alumbering city. Some vulgar clock will henceforth proclaim the time of day, with hideous regularity. No more little by-rings at off times and festivals, but two o'clock will follow one o'clock with punctuality, and the pleasant element of uncertainty will be eliminated for ever.

As might have been expected, the last moments of the bell were a mixture of the sublime and pathetic. Aroused by the cry of fire, the aged custodian, emerging from the box in which he slept beside the bell he loved so well, was seen to take his place, and ring the double stroke which betokens alarm—unwonted accents for the bell, which hitherto required that each series of vibrations of its solemn monotone should die away before it spoke again. It seemed now, however, as if the danger made it's pulse beat quicker. It's voice was clear as ever, but its utterance more rapid. How sublime it seemed, as it tolled its own knell amidst the crackle and crash and roar of the fire !

But now the air grows thicker. It is hard to breathe as the flames, leaping forth from the main building, are seen to lick the belfry with their forked and gleaming tongues. In the old bellringer's face, lit up by the fire, agony and despair are plainly written. Yet, though scorched and half stifled, he will not quit his post. What to him has life without his bell ? So regardless of all around him he continues to toll. But now a dull red glow is seen in one side of the ponderous metal, the dragon on its summit in which, it is said, the spirit of the bell resides, is white with heat, and the crackling of the burning timbers betokens that the end is at hand. Already under the influence of the heat the note is changing from a pean to a moan. The ring by which the bell is hung grows hot—is melting—a moment more and the glorious old relic, its last utterance strangled in its birth like a stifled sob, has fallen ! A shower of sparks flies heavenwards, and, save for the fire, there is silence, and the temple of Zojôji and its great bell are amongst the things which were.

Of the three celebrated Bells of Japan that of Shiba held the second place as regards size and importance, Kamakura has the largest, that of Miidera is the third of the series. What a chapter could be written about these bells, could a historian be discovered worthy of the task !

In old times the casting of a bell was a great event, and performed with much ceremony. It was by no means uncommon for ladies of quality to present the mirrors which reflected their charms, to be melted down and incorporated with the bell. in the expectation that every time it was tolled, it offered up in the sweetest of tones a little prayer that the donors be forgiven their frailties and follies. What prettier conceit was ever cherished ? The sweet chime of the bell at eventide, wafted on the wings of the wind to the gods, bespeaking their favour for the little fair ones here below,—innocentest of sinners !

A bell used to be a very holy object. So sacred was it that a man passing beneath it was said to be turned to water, and a woman to a—serpent. This was considered a deadly insult to the spirit of the bell. This spirit resided in the Dragon couchant which crouched upon the top and served the purpose of affording a means by which to suspend the bell. And a most plaguey spirit, by all accounts, was this same Dragon. For not content with avenging himself as aforesaid, he, it seems, being related to another reptile of the same order who inhabited a castle beneath the water, was always ready to rejoin his relative below, to the imminent danger, nay, sometimes to the complete destruction, of the bell. For is it not history how that a great bell of Mito's was being landed near Asakusa from a boat upon the river, and how that as fast as it could be applied, the landing tackle broke, but never an inch stirred the bell ? Pondering on this unexpected state of affairs, it became evident to him that nothing but the strongest material could resist the strain necessary to overcome the passive resistance of the bell ; so Mito procured a rope of women's hair, and set to work confident of success ; for what could be found immova-

ble to such an appeal? But the first pull altogether blasted their hopes, the rope snapped like thread, and the bell fell into the mud,—to the glee of the priests, be it said, who saw the difficulty from the first, and declared that they perceived two river imps in the form of children emerge from the water, and cut the ropes as fast as they were applied. However that may have been, the common people, although they saw nothing supernatural, believed the holy fathers, and left to its fate the bell, which, sinking into the river, disappeared for ever. And so a great bell was sacrificed because the little Dragon on top was determined to see his cousin of the castle in the river. And is not the place where this befell called unto the present day Kanegafuji? And were not the difficulties of water transport well known and dreaded by all owners, or custodians of bells in Japan from that day? Near Nagasaki is another place where a similar accident is said to have happened, and it is called in consequence Kanegasaki.

The great Bell of Miidera is remarkable in many ways. A spot upon it is shown where there is a little hollow in the metal. A celebrated beauty, it is said, struck with admiration of its polish, laid her hand upon the bell and prayed aloud for just such a mirror to reflect her dimples; when, lo! the bell, as if outraged by the speech, withdrew from her touch and left a hollow where before was roundness. Could it have been that the melting pot received no little contribution from her, and the guardian spirit was cross in consequence? For the credit of a bell of such renown it is to be hoped that the converse at least was not the case, as a bell capable of such rank ingratitude could hardly be trusted with these little prayers which the fair benefactresses, as related above, expected it to say for them. However, whatever its faults, inconstancy was not one of them, for when Benkei, a man renowned for his prodigious strength, carried off the bell from Miidera to his own place, it fell into a state of profound melancholy, and longed so after its former residence that it had only one burden to its song. Let it be rung never so often, it could only sob out from early morn till dewy eve—*Miidera ye ikô, Miidera ye ikô*—"I want to go back to Miidera, I want to go back to Miidera:" until at last Benkei, maddened by its reiteration of this complaint, shouldered the bell again, and carrying it back from whence he took it, flung it down in disgust, since which time it has, it is said, completely changed its tune and become a reasonable bell once more.

Yedo, January 1st, 1874.

Law & Police.

H. B. M.'s PROVINCIAL COURT.

Before Mr. Acting Assistant Judge HANNEN.

January 3rd, 1874.

Saml. S. Vollum sued Captain F. D. Walker of the *Shalimar* for \$12 for work done on board said vessel.

Defendant pleaded liability in the sum of \$5 only.

Judgment given for \$5, costs to be divided.

January 5th, 1874.

Amatsu was charged with stealing two revolvers from P. Mandonza at No. 163.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty.

Sentenced to two months imprisonment.

January 9th, 1874.

The Japanese Custom House authorities sued the Captain of the British barque *Vanguard*, Mr. J. R. Luckes, for having illegally opened the hatches of said vessel on the 31st December last, thus violating the 2nd article of the Trade Regulations with Japan.

Mr. J. F. Lowder prosecuted on behalf of the Japanese Government.

Defendant admitted the fact, but denied liability, and pleaded not guilty.

The Japanese Boarding Officer deposed that when he went on board the *Vanguard* at fifteen minutes past 6 a.m. on the 31st December, to open the seals which had been put on the previous evening he found the seals broken and that a cargo boat had already been loaded.

The chief officer of the *Vanguard* said that it was exactly twenty-two minutes to eight when the Japanese officer came on board.

Defendant pleaded that owing to the officers not arriving at the usual hour, he thought they had forgotten his vessel.

His Honour said that he must find the defendant guilty and inflict the full penalty specified in the Trade Regulations, \$60.

H. B. M.'s CONSULAR COURT.

Before Mr. Consul RUSSELL ROBERTSON.

January 6th, 1874.

J. Donovan, seaman on board the *Glenroy*, was charged with assault.

Accused pleaded not guilty.

Fined \$5, or in default, seven days' imprisonment, with hard labour.

On the 8th instant, an inquiry was held at the British Consulate into the causes of the death of William Wisbart, a native of Scotland, found dead in one of the cells of the foreign Police Station, Honcho Dori.

Mr. Consul Russell Robertson, Coroner, and Messrs. John Farmer, William Curtis and John Higginsbotham, jurors.

A Japanese policeman deposed that on the 7th instant, he saw a foreigner lying in the road near No. 93. He put him in a *jinriksha* and conveyed him to the Station. His eyes were discoloured, his lips purple and foam issued from his mouth. He had recognized deceased as the man.

Mr. Buckle, M. B., deposed that he had made a *post mortem* examination: there were signs of contusion about the eyes, the lungs were congested, and there was fatty degeneration about the liver, kidneys and heart, quite sufficient to account for death.

Francis Chester, sergeant of police, deposed that deceased was brought by a Japanese policeman, charged with being drunk and sleeping in the street. He was put into a cell, and visited at intervals during the night, the last visit being at 3.10 a.m. Witness went out at 4.30 a.m., and on his return he visited deceased's cell, and found that he was dead.

After hearing some further evidence the jury found that the deceased had died from 'natural causes,' but added that the jury feel it their duty to call attention to the inadequate supply of blankets provided at the station, and request H. B. M.'s Consul to bring this matter to the notice of the proper authority, as also the desirability of keeping the cells at a fair temperature of warmth during the cold weather, and of seeing that there is proper ventilation in summer.

U. S. CONSULAR COURT.

Before Mr. Acting Consul GEO. N. MITCHELL.

January 6th, 1874.

Obas. Roe, seaman on board the U. S. S. *Saco* was charged with being drunk and incapable.

Accused pleaded guilty.

Fined \$3 and to pay the expenses of a *jinriksha*, in which accused was conveyed to the Police Station.

Extracts.

THE MARSHALATE.

The Restoration project having fallen dead, there was only one coherent idea in all the noise and confusion that followed—namely, salvation through the continued presidency of Marshal MacMahon. At first, it seems, the Royalists really imagined that they might make something of a Monarchy after all. There was a proposition to establish a Regency—to name the Comte de Paris Regent, *pour le Roi empêché*—"the formula employed in the case of a Sovereign becoming insane or otherwise incapacitated;" but on inspection it appeared to the Royalists themselves too absurd particularly as the Comte de Paris could not possibly assent to it. There was a proposal to proclaim a Monarchy with the Prince de Joinville as Lieutenant-General of the kingdom; but this was disposed of at starting by a similar difficulty: neither the Prince de Joinville nor any other Orleans Prince would allow himself to appear as competitor with the Comte de Chambord who has not withdrawn but reasserted his pretensions. Therefore nothing remained but to fall back on the plan of continuing the powers of the Marshal for a long term of years.

This plan was resolved on; and it was announced that the Marshal was not only favourable to it, but would declare his acquiescence in an address to the Assembly. Meanwhile the various sections of the Right met and agreed upon the following resolution almost unanimously:—"The powers of Marshal Mac-

MacMahon in their present form are prolonged for ten years. Laws subsequently passed will determine the functions of the Marshal." This formal delineation of the Royalist plan of action was only a more terse and less alarming version of a programme previously published. The one includes all that was set forth in the other; which ran as follows:—"A prolongation of Marshal MacMahon's powers to be absolutely insured for a long period. A motion to this effect to be submitted simply and with 'urgency' to the Assembly as soon as it meets. The Ministry to remain unchanged until a vote has been taken, and immediately after the vote to give in its resignation to the Marshal, who would remodel the Cabinet upon a basis consistent with the composition of the majority, the new Cabinet to be instructed to introduce without delay a series of bills calculated firmly to protect Conservative interests." There was no misunderstanding these tactics. They simply amount to this: substitution of a Royalist President for a Legitimist Prince. The latter was to take the throne as of personal right; the former is to be invested with similar rights of sovereignty by a vote of the Assembly. The Count was to be accepted unconditionally, as a first step; the Marshal is to be accepted unconditionally, as a first step. But after the Count was proclaimed King, he was to settle his government under laws not in violation of the right of worship, equality before the law, &c., but in strict repression of Revolutionists and Radicals. In like manner, when the Marshal has been settled in power for ten years, under guarantees of supreme authority, laws calculated firmly to protect Conservative interests are to be passed—such as laws dealing with the press, with the electorate, with municipal bodies, and so forth; and then the Assembly may proceed to the discussion of Constitutional laws. Thus we see how little the aims of the Royalists are changed. Instead of seizing power for a King, they grasp at it for a President; and the President is expected to play the same part as the King; and his term of power is to be so employed that the Comte de Chambord may one day amend his late utterance at Vienna and say, "France is now mine; Marshal MacMahon is no longer necessary."

But although the Royalist course of action was clear enough, almost everything depended upon the Marshal's personal will; nor had the world long to wait to know what part he meant to play. It was generally understood even up to Wednesday morning that Marshal MacMahon's address would not be delivered till Thursday. But the tactics of the Right are all of a military character; and no sooner was the Assembly met than the Duc de Broglie surprised its members by whipping out the Address and proceeding to read it. As the vote was to be taken immediately afterwards, the drift of this move is obvious: the Assembly was to be startled as much as possible.

The Address itself proved to accord with the published wishes of the Monarchists; and whether the Marshal knows it or not (and of course his reputation as a simple soldier cannot be lost in a day), it marks him as the Comte de Chambord's own man. It begins by congratulating the Assembly on the circumstance that during the recess nothing happened to disturb the public peace. "At home public order has been firmly maintained." This is true; but he might as well have acknowledged the calmness of the public temper, as well as the vigilance of his functionaries and the readiness of the soldiery to repress disorders that were never attempted. "It is true," he adds, "that material tranquillity has not prevented agitation of the public mind. As the period of your reassembling approached party strife acquired redoubled intensity." Here the Marshal is not so accurate: in fact, he is so inaccurate, so ingenious in misrepresenting the facts, that we begin to wonder whether the soldier's language was not revised by one of his political friends. The public mind has been agitated, but not, as he suggests, by the spontaneous effervescence of popular opinion. Nor is it true that just before the Assembly met party strife had become doubly intensified. The agitations of the last month have been almost wholly confined to one party—the Marshal's own. They have been chiefly visible in the contention of their own hopes and fears, their own plots and pretensions, the struggles and disappointments of an impossible intrigue of which the rest of France was merely a spectator. However, the Marshal will have it that there has been a struggle of parties, in which the question of a definitive form of government was ardently discussed by each. "I," says the Marshal, "had neither to intervene in this discussion, nor to foretell the decision of your sovereign authority. My Government could do no more than confine the discussion within legal limits, and ensure, under any hypothesis, absolute respect for your decision." Nothing is more certain than that "my Govern-

ment" did more than this. It not only gave countenance but actual help to the party of agitation; it was an accomplice in their designs and was defeated in their defeat. Those designs having fallen to pieces, not under the hand of their opponents, but through congenital weakness, it occurs to the Monarchical President that the Assembly "may think that the strong feeling produced by these animated discussions is a proof that as facts now stand, and in the present state of the public mind, the establishment of any form of government whatever which should indefinitely bind the future presents serious difficulties." This is not quite clear; it apparently means that, as facts now stand the Restoration which would have given France a stable Government being impossible, therefore she had better go on with one as much like it as will bind the future more definitely to Royalism. "You will perhaps find it to be more prudent to maintain in present institutions a character enabling the Government to surround itself, as at present, with all the friends of order, without distinction of party." And then the Marshal proceeds to say how, in his opinion, this may be done. "The present Government lacks two essential conditions, of which you cannot longer leave it destitute without danger. It has neither sufficient vitality nor authority. Whoever the holder of power may be, that power can do nothing durable if its right to govern is daily called into question, if it has not before it the guarantee of a sufficiently long existence to spare the country the prospect of incessantly recurring agitation. With a power that might be changed at any moment, it is possible to secure peace to-day, but not safety for the morrow." But do we not all know that France is absolutely quiet?—that throughout all the political agitations of the last month—agitations which foreboded the resuscitation of a hateful form of government—not a finger was raised in menace, nor any symptom of rebellion allowed to appear? Does not the Marshal himself boast of how well peace has been maintained? But no; it is his business to represent the country as verging on anarchy, and the Government as powerless to resist it unless it is allowed larger means of repression. "Stability is wanting in the present Government, and authority also often fails it. It is not sufficiently armed by the laws to discourage the factions, or even to obtain obedience from its own agents. The public press abandons itself with impunity to excesses which would end by corrupting the public mind throughout the country. The municipalities forget that they are organs of law, and leave the central authority without representatives in many parts of the territory."

These latter sentences deserve special consideration. Stability is wanting in the present Government no doubt, and it is likely to remain in that condition; but when has authority failed it? It was strong enough to suppress elections, and found authority to gag the press; but that is not enough, it seems. The Government is "not sufficiently armed by the laws to discourage the factions;" what factions? whom does this word exclude? Again, it cannot even obtain obedience from its own agents: what sort of obedience, from what kind of agents? Not the police or the military, without doubt. Moreover, "the public press abandons itself with impunity to excesses;" excesses, we suppose, meaning criticism hostile to Monarchists and hurtful to their feelings; it can mean nothing else. Even "the municipalities forget that they are organs of law;" that is to say, organs of the Government; the Duc de Broglie's organs—the "agents" before alluded to, perhaps. And for all this there is only one remedy; a strong and durable executive power, guaranteed for a period of at least ten years, and armed by authority of the Assembly with prompt means of "discouraging the factions," breaking printing presses, and dragging municipalities which happen to betray views of their own.

It is enough to repeat the language of this Message—almost unnecessary to point its meaning. It is simply a demand that Marshal MacMahon shall be invested with all the power that his party dare not claim for the Comte de Chambord. In acknowledging that he could not be accepted at present with such ideas, the Prince said, "The issue at stake is none other than that of reconstructing society, deeply disturbed, upon its natural bases; of energetically insuring the reign of law and order, of restoring prosperity at home, concluding lasting alliances abroad, and especially of not fearing to employ force in the service of order and justice." This is modest in comparison with Marshal MacMahon's Address. The meaning is the same, no doubt. But what the Prince conceals in vague words the Marshal proclaims in plain ones. The man agrees with the master as to the only way of insuring Peace, but he goes further: he acknowledges that it can only be preceded by a reign of terror, and begs to be invested with legal

rights to commence it forthwith. Whether he will succeed in obtaining them remains to be seen. In this impression of the *Pall Mall Budget* we can give no information on that point. On Wednesday there was an indecisive vote in his favour—a vote which gave him a majority of 14 in an Assembly of 710 members. A majority of 2 per cent. had thus shown itself inclined to establish a dictatorial Government avowedly founded on proscription and oppression; and this not at a time when “order” demands the intervention of a single soldier or a single policeman the more, but at a time of profound tranquillity. This looks to us neither more nor less than an invitation to rot. What the vote would have been if the elections had been complete, and if the Comte de Chambord had not ordered some thirty doubting Legitimists to support Marshal Mac Mahon, need not be said.

INSECT CIVILISATION.

The newer natural science is to some extent bewildering in more ways than one. We have heard so much lately of the question concerning the origin of man, that far more curious matters have been thrown into the shade, matters which might affect, not perhaps our view of revelation, but our general view of the universe, still more seriously. The latest inquiries into the habits of the lower animals has elicited the evidence of a degree of complexity in the social institutions of some classes of animals which suggests that certain characteristics which we suppose to be purely human, might belong to tribes of animals for which we have never been accustomed to entertain much respect. Not long ago, in an article on the intellectual powers of birds, we referred to the curious evidence, which Mr. Darwin has quoted at length in his work on the origin of man, as to the gay social meetings, the elaborately decorated rendezvous, and the graceful dances, of the Bower birds; and now we have Sir John Lubbock, in the learned little book* which he has just published on the origin and metamorphoses of insects, suggesting that possibly some kinds of ants may have a religious feeling towards a certain species of beetle, and that if that be not the case, they may at least be credited with having a much larger number of domesticated animals than human beings. We will quote the whole passage in which this notion is thrown out:—

“Ants are very fond of the honey-dew which is formed by the Aphides, and have been seen to tap the Aphides with their antennae, as if to induce them to emit some of the sweet secretion. There is a species of Aphis which lives on the roots of grass, and some ants collect these into their nests, keeping them, in fact, just as we do cows. One species of red ant does no work for itself, but makes slaves of a black kind, which then do everything for their masters. Ants also keep a variety of beetles and other insects in their nests. That they have some reason for this seems clear, because they readily attack any unwelcome intruder; but what that reason is, we do not yet know. If these insects are to be regarded as the domestic animals of the ants, then we must admit that the ants possess more domestic animals than we do. But it has not been shown that the beetles produce any secretion of use to the ants; and yet there are some remarkable species, rarely if ever, found, excepting in ants' nests, which are blind and apparently helpless, and which the ants tend with much care. M. Lespès, who regards these blind beetles as true domestic animals, has recorded some interesting observations on the relations between one of them (*Claviger Duvalii*) and the ants (*Lasius niger*) with which it lives. This species of *Claviger* is never met with except in ants' nests, though, on the other hand, there are many communities of *Lasius* which possess none of these beetles; and M. Lespès found that when he placed *Clavigers* in a nest of ants which had none of their own, the beetles were immediately killed and eaten, the ants themselves being, on the other hand, kindly received by other communities of the same species. He concludes from these observations that some communities of ants are more advanced in civilisation than others: the suggestion is no doubt ingenious, and the fact curiously resembles the experience of navigators who have endeavoured to introduce domestic animals among barbarous tribes; but M. Lespès has not yet, so far as I am aware, published the details of his observations, without which it is impossible to form a decided opinion. I have sometimes wondered whether the ants have any feeling of reverence for these beetles; but the whole subject is as yet very obscure, and would well repay careful study.”

Perhaps we may assume that Sir John Lubbock is having a quiet joke at the expense of the clergy, when he suggests that perhaps a special reverence may be felt by the ants for a blind species of beetle, otherwise useless to it and helpless, which it nevertheless “tends with great care.”—in other words, we suppose, that the ants may look upon the blind beetles as domestic chaplains, or even perhaps as idols which have power to bring good or bad fortune on the families which tend them. But M. Lespès, whom he quotes, is evidently serious in thinking that certain tribes of the black ant are

as much more civilised than other tribes of the same insect as certain races of men are than savages; and Sir John Lubbock, too, is evidently serious when he remarks that the conduct of the barbarous ants in killing and eating the beetles which the more civilised so carefully tend, curiously resembles the conduct of savages in killing and eating the cows or sheep which navigators introduce among them for the sake of the milk and wool, but in which savages can see nothing but an immediate supply of food. If one of the more polite ants themselves be introduced into the nests of the less civilised, its species is at once respected, and it is received with such hospitality as rude races generally showed to wandering Europeans till taught by experience to fear their unscrupulous ways; but if one of the beetles which the better educated ants have, say, domesticated, be thus introduced, instead of being treated with anything of the same respect, it is at once treated just as savages treat our imported cows or sheep, or even horses,—as material for the butcher's shop,—without any appreciation of the more refined uses to which it may be put. Even this less subtle suggestion as to the varying degrees of civilisation attained by various tribes of ants, opens up a rather startling field of speculation. If there be insects possessing a larger number of domestic animals than man has pressed into his service, and yet if this be not a mere matter of instinct, but of acquired art, to which even other tribes of the very same species of ant have not yet attained, then there may be progress, there may be discovery, there may be inventive genius and investigation among the ants,—just as there may be artistic genius, something in the nature of the creative power which makes a salon delightful, amongst the birds whose elaborate entertainments Mr. Gould has described for us. But if so, then there must be also ants of master minds, there must be what some deep-hearted mystic among the ants, some Carlylian ant of the race *Lasius niger*, might call heroes, and declare to be worthy of hero-worship. The ant which first discovered that aphides might be kept and milked, if such an ant there were, must have been a patriarch worthy of historic fame. Even the red ant which first introduced slavery, though we might call him worse than a Jefferson Davis among ants, would have been a great hero to the Carlylian ant aforesaid, and would very likely have been hymned by him as having deserved the gratitude of the enslaved ant, black Quashee, himself, as well as of the whole tribe of red ants who were exempted from toil and enabled to devote their learned leisure to more liberal pursuits, by the discovery. Nay, there might even be a Toussaint L'Ouverture among the black ants, to liberate them from the service of the red, and in his turn to be seized and imprisoned by the white ants. Nay, seriously, if there be real progress among ants, of any race, if there be tribes of *Lasius niger* which have domesticated more kinds of insects than man has domesticated of other animals, and which have consciously improved on their ancestors in this respect, it would be impossible to deny that there must have been discoverers and reformers amongst them, and that it was not instinct but intellect which made them so. Nor is this suggestion limited to any one region of the animal world. A French savant the other day declared that the swallows of Rouen had improved on the architecture of the ordinary swallow, by making what may be called balconies for their young ones to sit upon and breathe the air more freely before they are able to fly, and though it is possible that such cases may be explained by the mere automatic action of Mr. Darwin's principle that a useful variation, though in some sense accidental at first, will always tend to perpetuate itself, that is not a principle which it is quite easy to apply to so elaborate an institution as the domestication of a blind beetle, or an aphid in the capacity of milch cow, or to the artistic social amusements of the Bower birds, as quoted by Mr. Darwin from Mr. Gould. It seems to be now really contemplated as at least possible by our naturalists that among several of the least powerful species of animals, insects certainly included, there has been at one time at all events, real progress in the nature of a utilised discovery either beneficial or delightful to the whole race.

Now if this were to be ever established in relation to any one of the more insignificant animals, what a new feeling of moral embarrassment it would add to life to think that at any moment, by a careless tread, or an accident of the plough, we might be putting a term to the life of a great reformer in one of the regions of life too minute for any intelligent communication between our world and its,—that the prospects of a great race of ants, for instance, had been suddenly blighted by the untimely slaughter not merely of a “village Hampden” or an “inglorious Milton” amongst ants, but, far worse, of an active and notable personage who was leading the way in new investigation, or the new organisation of discoveries already made? In that case it might even be possible that the

* On the Origin and Metamorphoses of Insects. By Sir John Lubbock, Bart. London: Macmillan and Co.

Blind and helpless beetles are tended, neither from any feeling of superstition, nor for the sake of any service that they render to the ants who tend them, but only as a recognition of the duty of compassion towards a perfectly helpless tribe,—that in fact, this tending of the beetles, is of the nature of a home or orphanage for beetles, and that the ant who began the custom was a sort of Lord Shaftesbury among ants, instead of, as Sir John Lubbock hints, a kind of Ignatius Loyola, instituting a grim cultus of superstition. If that were the case, imagine the sense of dismay with which we should reflect that by any step of which we were supremely unconscious we might have put a tragic end to a great and philanthropic career,—a career marked by the first recognition amongst insects of the principle that should be some moral limit put upon the cruel "conflict for existence"! The ant which,—without language, we suppose,—had anticipated Shakespeare's thought that,—

"The poor beetle that we tread upon
In corporal sufferance finds a pang as great
As when a giant dies,"

—and had done more than Shakespeare, had made the thought the foundation of a domestic institution, for the humane (or rather formicarian) treatment of beetles, might yet be slain without the dimmest knowledge of it on our part, by some carelessly flung stone. And surely this would be a still more painful supposition than the Arabian superstition that, in flinging nutshells about, you might chance to wound an invisible genie in the eye. There would be something almost intolerable in the thought that the most unquestionable moral and intellectual advances were being made in a world not indeed absolutely invisible to us, but still so inaccessible to us in general, that we could not by any possibility take account of what was going on in it in our ordinary procedure—that we might be murdering a whole army of industrial captains whenever we pulled up a tree, and blighting the intellectual or social prospects of a progressive race whenever we rode over an ant-hill. Yet much that we hear now-a-days compels the conjecture that there may be a degree of conscious life and knowledge, not quite impossible even of moral sympathy, in some of the insignificant, as regards size, of all our fellow-creatures. Yet there is, unquestionably, something very paralysing to the imagination in the notion of all this possible world of wisdom in a mite or a water-drop, a world as much beyond our recognition as if it were infinitely above our apprehension. It is as if a clumsy Titan might ruin all the civilisation of our earth by a tap of his fist, or even break up the earth itself by a stumble. Did such an accident to our world seem really probable, we should soon learn to make light of studies of which our hold was so precarious; and it is, therefore, nearly impossible for us to attribute sincerely to any minute world, liable thus to be ruined by our blunderings, the kind of conscious progress and growing civilisation which are sometimes half-humourously ascribed to its inhabitants by the observers of insect life. Struggle as we may, we cannot divide the idea of conscious progress, even in mere social organisation, from a moral significance which would render it impossible to believe that any superior race could overthrow it by mere clumsiness. In other words, we cannot separate conscious wisdom, even in the administration of an empire of ants, from its source in the conscious wisdom which guides that greater universe, of which we are ourselves minute parts, and cannot therefore believe that anything so great as true intellectual or moral progress can be liable to constant destruction at the hands of creatures at once capable of sympathy with it, and yet quite ignorant of what they are destroying. It would be as easy to think that the solitary wasp, which, according to Sir John Lubbock, has "the instinct" of stinging the prey destined to be the food of its young, directly they are hatched, in the centre of the nervous system, so as to render them helpless, and yet not to kill them,—(for if they were to die, they would be decomposed before the young wasp needed them for food).—acts on scientific surgical principles, as to attribute the conscious life of discovery and of economic administration to creatures so much the sport of accidents as the ants. We know that human advance is liable to no really arbitrary catastrophes of this kind, and we can hardly doubt that any similar progress even in a world beneath our own, would be equally safe from it. Even an atheist could hardly be found who would consent to believe that art, intellect, and nobility greater than ours are constantly succumbing to our idlest whims,—so deeply ingrained is the faith in a moral providence, even in those who reject the faith in God. And we hold that the deep incredulity with which even the most serious naturalists obviously treat their own very plausible conjectures as to the grander possibilities of the 'infinitely little' worlds into the affairs of which they inquire

so acutely, is but the profound testimony of their hearts and consciences to the providence which guarantees a certain real durability to all the higher stages of intellectual and moral life. As far as we can see, but for this ineradicable faith, nothing would be more plausible than to credit the ant with a sort of Roman faculty for insect organisation and empire; and if the effort to do so is a mere sign of humour, which it is impossible to regard as serious, we take it that the explanation is, not that the facts commented on forbid the inference, but that our knowledge of the subordinate and dependent place which these creatures hold in our world is inconsistent with any durability in the moral and intellectual issues to which they would on that hypothesis have attained, and that we are compelled to believe in such durability by a faith deeper than any power of observation. It is an invincible belief in Providence which makes even naturalists regard rather as a paradox of fancy, than as a scientific inference, the intellectual and moral qualities which certain phenomena would otherwise legitimately suggest as belonging to several insect tribes.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Dec. 31, *Cheops*, British steamer, Jernan, 983, from Hongkong and London, General, to Gilman & Co.
Dec. 31, *Golden Age*, American steamer, Coy, 1,870, from Hakodate, General, to P. M. S. S. Co.
Jan. 2, *Glenroy*, British steamer, Campbell, 1,378, from Hongkong, General, to P. M. S. S. Co.
Jan. 3, *Lotte*, German barque, Hildebrand, 386, from Hamburg, General, to Van Oordt & Co.
Jan. 4, *Bombay*, British steamer, Davies, 1,325, from Hongkong, Mails and General, to P. & O. Co.
Jan. 5, *Walton*, British barque, Shield, 481, from London, General.
Jan. 7, *Costa Rica*, American steamer, from Shanghai and Ports General, to P. M. S. S. Co.
Jan. 9, *Atalanta*, German steamer, Mangelsen, 701, from Shanghai, General, to Simon, Evers & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Jan. 6, *James S. Stone*, American steamer, Finney, 710, for New York, Tea, despatched by Smith, Baker & Co.
Jan. 6, *Menzaleh*, French steamer, Mourrut, 960, for Hongkong, General, despatched by M. M. Co.
Jan. 6, *Golden Age*, American steamer, Coy, 1,870, for Shanghai and Ports, General, despatched by P. M. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Bombay*, from Hongkong.—Miss Moore, Mr. Renton, and 7 Chinese.
Per French steamer *Menzaleh* for Hongkong.—Messrs. J. M. Smith, Lulief, L. Michel, White, Michel, de Montgolfier, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas servant and child, Madame Aymes, Dr. Forné, M. Pellisier, and 14 Marines and Sailors.
Per American steamer *Golden Age* for Shanghai and Ports.—Messrs. Chas. Crocker, R. P. Hammond, Paymaster Allen, wife, and 2 children, Messrs. Rae, A. D. Bauduin, Van der Pol, and one Japanese, and 50 in the steerage.
Per American steamer *Costa Rica* from Shanghai and Ports.—Messrs. J. M. Vickers, C. A. Schultz, M. De Bellay, C. McDonald, U. S. N., L. C. Heilner, Dr. Dickenson, E. Fischer, E. O. Kirby, F. Bevil, G. S. Charleson, L. Faber, and Geo. Sering, and 44 Japanese in the steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Bombay*, from Hongkong:—
Merchandise 524 packages.
Sundries 293 packages.
Treasures 50 boxes.
Total 867 packages.
Per French steamer *Menzaleh* for Hongkong.
Silk 60 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Glenroy* reports experienced very severe weather during the last four days.
The British steamer *Bombay* reports left Hongkong, 28th Dec., at noon.

NOTICE.

MR. DANIEL SHARP, JR. withdrew from our Firm on the 31st December ultimo, and his interest and responsibility therein ceased on that date.

HOWARD CHURCH & Co.
Yokohama, January 6, 1874. 1m.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1873.

Lat 35° 25' 41" North.

Long 139° 39' 0" East.

MONTH.	FROM OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 9 A.M. LOCAL TIME.										
	MEAN.									Total Rainfall in Inches.	
	Height of Barometer.	HYGROMETER.					Direction of Wind.	SELF REGISTERING THERMOMETERS..			
		Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Tempera- ture of Dew point.	Elastic Force of Vapour.	Humidity.		Max. in air.	Min. in air.		Mean in air.
July	29.80	80.1	76.3	75.0	.880	.847	S.	83.4	70.5	76.9	0.99
August	29.89	81.4	77.6	76.1	.907	.845	S.	86.5	74.0	80.2	4.28
September	29.82	70.0	67.8	66.8	.668	.902	N.	75.6	67.0	71.0	15.82
October.....	29.97	58.9	55.6	53.1	.414	.815	N.	65.3	54.9	60.1	7.73
November	29.92	48.2	44.6	40.9	.260	.769	N.	56.5	41.7	49.1	2.63
December	30.16	37.0	32.5	25.5	.133	.605	N.	44.0	34.5	39.2	.67
Mean.....	29.93	62.6	59.1	56.2	.544	.797		68.5	57.1	62.7	32.12

From observations at 9 A.M. daily, on the Bluff (100 feet above sea level), the mean reading of the barometer for the past half year was 29.93 in.; the highest reading was 30.43 in. on the 20th of December; and the lowest 29.15 in. on the 23rd of September.

The mean temperature of the air was 62.7 deg.

The highest day temperature in the shade was 91.0 deg. on the 13th of August; and the lowest night temperature 22.0 deg. on the 17th of December. The extreme range, therefore, in the half year was 69.0 deg.

The difference between the mean dew point and the air temperature was 6.4 deg.

The mean degree of humidity of the air was .797, complete saturation being represented by 1.

The general direction of the Wind during the first two months was Southerly, and during the last four months Northerly.

Rain fell during the half year to the amount of 32.12 in. The maximum fall in one day was 6.48 in. registered on the morning of the 23rd September; but in the 27 hours between 9 a.m. on the 22nd and noon on the day following 8.71 in. fell. There were in all 124 days on which no rain fell. The mean fall therefore on rainy days was .53 in.

C. S. F. FAGAN,—Lieut.

R. M. L. I.

CAMP, YOKOHAMA, December 31st, 1873.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

LATITUDE. 35° 25' 41" North.

LONGITUDE. 139° 39' 0" East.

Day of Week.	Day of Month.	OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 9 A.M. LOCAL TIME.														
		Barometer.	Attached Thermometer.	Hygrometer.					Wind.		Cloud. 0—10.	During past 24 hrs.				
				Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Dew Point.	Elastic force of Vapour.	Humidity 0—1.	Direction.	Force in lbs. per sq. ft.		Max. in air.	Min. in air.	Mean in air.	Rain in Inches.	Ozone.
Sat.	Jan. 3	29.94	49.0	34.0	31.5	26.5	.139	.712	N. W.	.09	4	38.0	25.0	31.5	.00	5
Sun	" 4	29.87	50.0	34.0	30.0	24.1	.124	.635	N.	.03	8	41.0	27.0	34.0	.00	1
Mon	" 5	29.86	48.0	37.0	33.0	27.1	.143	.649	N.	.87	8	41.0	31.0	36.0	.00	5
Tues	" 6	30.16	52.0	35.5	32.0	27.5	.146	.706	Calm.	.00	0	40.0	27.0	33.5	.00	6
Wed	" 7	30.17	49.0	35.0	33.2	32.2	.182	.896	Calm.	.00	5	40.0	30.0	35.0	.01	6
Thurs	" 8	30.04	52.5	39.5	35.5	29.7	.162	.669	N. W.	.09	1	51.0	30.0	40.5	.00	
Fri	" 9	30.06	50.5	36.0	32.6	27.5	.146	.692	N.	.01	8	45.0	31.0	38.0	.00	0.0
Mean		30.01	50.1	35.9	32.5	27.8	.149	.708		16.	5	42.3	28.7	35.5	.00	4

C. S. F. FAGAN,—Lieut.,

R. M. L. I.

CAMP, YOKOHAMA, January 9th, 1874.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

YOKOHAMA, JANUARY 10TH, 1874.

In the course of the present week the following Mail steamers have arrived and left :—

ARRIVALS :—On the 4th instant the P. & O. Co.'s steamer *Bombay*, from Hongkong and Europe.

DEPARTURES :—On the 6th instant the M. M. Co.'s steamer *Mensaleh*, for Hongkong and Europe.

The *Bombay* brought 50 boxes of treasure.

The *Mensaleh* took hence 60 bales of silk.

Cotton Fabrics.—Since our last report, business has in some degree resumed, and considering that the Native Holiday making is still going on, a fair activity may be reported as current. Of staple articles, in such instances where stocks are moderate, Shipments in process are large, so that the lookout for the first half of 1874, is not too promising.

Shirtings.—Settlements have been small while supplies are arriving freely; the tendency of prices is towards weaker rates.

Yarns.—Nos. 16 to 24 have been the prominent feature of the week, 650 bales have been placed at slightly better rates. Nos. 28 to 32 continue only in slight request at below figures. Nos. 38 to 42 have met with some enquiry at fuller prices for best qualities.

Woollens.—The position of Imports under this head is most unsatisfactory. Supplies of every description are large and in some instances, such as Cloth, are sufficient to meet an average consumption of two or three years, and this fact becomes more alarming to holders when as we write, the consumption must be considered as absolutely nil with no sound prospect of any immediate change.

Metals.—Supplies on hand and to arrive are ample for the requirements of the Trade, and at the moment we do not hear of any business passing.

On the whole it will be patent to all Importers, that great caution must be exercised, if any good is to be done in this branch of our Trade for the year just opening upon us. The nature of this market is such, that any excess in supply over consumption, will inevitably produce a similar condition of things as has so seriously marked the course of 1873.

QUOTATIONS FOR ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

GOODS.	PRICES.	GOODS.	PRICES.
Cotton Piece Goods.		WOOLLENS.—Continued.	
G. E. Grey Shirtings:—		ditto (plain) ditto ..	\$4.50 to 5.00
7 lbs. 38½ yds. 39 in. per pce.	\$2.17½ to \$2.25	Alpacas 43 yds. 31 in. ...	6.50 to 8.50
8 " " " 44 " 35 in. "	2.60 to 2.65	Camlet Cords 30 yds. 31 in. ...	Nominal.
8 lbs. 4 to 8 lbs. 6 ditto 39 in. "	2.67½ to 2.77½	Mousselines delaine, (plain) 80 to 81 in. pryd.	0.16 to 0.19½
9 lbs. " " " 44 in. "	3.10 to 3.15	ditto (printed) ...	0.24 to 0.30
G. E. White Shirtings:—		Cloth, Medium & Broad 54 in to 64 in ..	Dull.
56 to 60 reed 40 yds. 35 in. nominal "	2.45 to 2.65	ditto Union 54 in to 56 in ..	0.85 to 0.90
64 to 72 " ditto... " " "	2.70 to 2.85	Long Ellis (Assorted) ... per pce.	Dull.
T. Cloth:—6 lbs. " " " "	1.45 to 1.50	Blankets ... saleable per lb.	0.30 to 0.42½
7 " " " " " "	1.75 to 1.82½		
Drills, English—15 lbs. ...	3.20 to 3.30		
Handkerchiefs Assorted ... per doz.	0.45 to 0.80		
Brocades & Spots (White) ... per pce.	nominal.		
ditto (Dyed) ...			
Chintz (Assorted) 24 yds. 30 in. "	1.50 to 2.30		
Turkey Reds 24 yds. 30 in. ... per lb.	0.87½ to 0.95		
Velvets (Black) 85 yds. 22 in. per pce.	8.50 to 9.00		
Muslins and Cambric. 12 yds. 43 in. "	0.90 to 0.95		
Taffetaelasse single weft 12 yds 43 in. "	2.40 to 2.80		
ditto (double weft) " "	2.70 to 2.95		
Cotton Yarns.		Metals and Sundries.	
No. 16 to 24 ... per picul.	38.50 to 41.50	Iron flat and round ... per pol.	4.50 to 5.25
" 28 to 32 ... " "	40.00 to 42.00	" nail rod ... " "	4.50 to 5.75
" 38 to 42 ... small stock nom. "	45.00 to 47.00	" hoop ... nominal. "	5.00 to 5.10
		" sheet... " "	5.50 to 6.50
		" wire ... " "	11.00 to 13.00
		" pig ... " "	2.00 to 2.30
		Lead ... " "	Nominal.
		Tin Plates... per box.	9.00
		Formosa in Bag ... nom. per picul.	4.20 to 4.30
		in Basket ... " "	4.10 to 4.15
		China No. 1 Ping fah "	8.50 to 8.75
		do. No. 2 Ching-pak "	7.70 to 7.90
		do. No. 3 Ke-pak "	7.20 to 7.60
		do. No. 4 Kook-fah "	6.80 to 7.10
		do. No. 5 Kong-fuw "	6.30 to 6.70
		do. No. 6 E-pak "	5.50 to 6.00
		Swatow... " "	3.40 to 3.50
		Daitoong ... " "	4.00
		Sugar Candy... " "	9.50 to 10.50
		Raw Cotton (Shanghai new) ...	15.00 to 15.50
Woollens & Woollen Mixtures.			
Camlets 88 56 to 68 yds. 31 in. Asstd. per pce	nom. no stocks.		
ditto Black... " "	14.50 to 15.00		
ditto Scarlet ... " "	18.00 to 18.50		
Union Camlets ditto ... " "	Nominal.		
Lastings 30 yds. 31. " "	13.00 to 14.00		
Crape Lastings ditto ... " "	6.00 to 7.00		
Lastree & Orleans (figured) ditto ...	4.00 to 6.00		

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

(Continued.)

Silk.—Since the 24th ultimo, unfavourable news from home markets, and the Christmas and New Year's holidays, have checked the business.

Settlements are about 150 bales of Hanks and 50 bales of Oshiu and Sodai.

Prices close weak at previous quotations.

Tea.—Business on our Tea Market was resumed on the 5th instant, after the close of the New Year's festivities which had materially interfered with supplies from the country.

Our market was nearly swept clear of stock by the operations of the past ten days and at the present moment selection on hand is very scanty. Yokohama dealers declare that but little more tea can be expected to come down in current season, but this report is rather questionable.

An advance since the 24th ultimo of some \$6 per picul can be quoted as established on all classes, and the general quality of parcels now offering is anything but desirable.

The *Jas. S. Stone* had despatched for New York on the 6th instant, leaving the *Corea* to follow for same port on the berth. Settlements for the week piculs 1,650.

EXPORTS.

GOODS.		PRICES.	LAI'D DOWN AND SOLD IN LONDON. Ex. at 4s. 3½d.	LAI'D DOWN AND SOLD IN LYONS. Ex. at 5.40 @ 6s.
Silk:—				
HANKS.	{ Maebashi } Extra none. ...	\$710.00 to \$740.00	26s. 11d. to 28s. d	frs. 74 to frs. 78
	{ and } Best ...	\$680.00 to \$700.00	25s. 10d. to 26s. 7d.	frs. 71 to frs. 74
	{ Shinshiu } Good ...	\$640.00 to \$660.00	24s. 5d. to 25s. 2d.	frs. 67 to frs. 70
	{ } Medium ...	\$600.00 to \$620.00	23s. d. to 23s. 8d.	frs. 63 to frs. 66
	{ } Inferior ...	\$550.00	21s. 2d.	frs. 59
OSHIO	Extra ...	\$720.00	27s. 4d.	frs. 76
"	Best ...	\$680.00 to \$700.00	25s. 10d. to 26s. 7d.	frs. 71 to frs. 74
"	Good ...	\$630.00 to \$660.00	24s. 1d. to 25s. 2d.	frs. 66 to frs. 70
"	Medium ...	\$550.00 to \$600.00	21s. 2d. to 23s. d.	frs. 58 to frs. 64
"	Inferior ...			
HAMATSKY	Inferior to Best ...	\$480.00 to \$510.00	18s. 8d. to 19s. 7d.	frs. 52 to frs. 55
Tea:—				
	Common ...	\$23.00 to 26.00	}	
	Good Common ...	26.00 to 30.00		
	Medium ...	33.00 to 36.00		
	Good Medium ...	37.00 to 40.00		
	Fine ...	47.00 to 50.00		
	Finest nominally ...	54.00 to 56.00		
	Choicest " ...	55.00 up.		
	Choices ...			
Sundries:—				
	Mushrooms ...	\$37.00 to 46.00		
	Isinglass ...	\$30.00 to 35.00		
	Sharks' Fins ...	\$22.00 to 52.00		
	White Wax ...	\$13.00 to 15.00		
	Bees Do. ...	\$12.00 to 13.00		
	Cuttle fish ...	None.		
	Dried Shrimps ...	"		
	Seaweed, ...	\$ 1.50 to 3.50		
	Gallnut ...	None.		
	Tobacco ...	\$ 6.50 to 12.00		

EXCHANGE AND BULLION.

Exchange.—The business of the week has very limited, and closes ½d. lower.

Rates close as follows:—

On London, Bank, 6 Months' Sight.....	4s. 3d.	On Hongkong Bank Bills on demand ½ per cent discount.
" " Bank Bills on demand	4s. 2d.	" " Private Bills 10 ds. eight 1½ per cent discount.
" " Credits.....	4s. 3½d. to ½d.	" San Francisco Bank Bills on demand
" Paris, Bank Bills.....	5.40½	30 days' sight Private....
" " Private	5.45	" New York Bank Bills on demand...
" Shanghai Bank Bills on demand..... 74½		80d. s. Private.....
" " Private Bills 10 days sight 74½		Gold Yen..... 412
		Kinsats

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTICE.

THE BUSINESS of the undersigned is in Liquidation from this date.

T. LENZ.

Hiogo, January 1, 1874.

MR. T. LENZ has this day joined our Firm as a Partner.

FABER & VOIGT.

Hiogo, January 1, 1874.

J. 8. d. & w. 4ws.

NOTICE.

MR. CHARLES JOHN MELHUISE and Mr. ALEXANDER WILLIAM GLENNIE, are this day admitted Partners in our Firm in Japan, which will be conducted as heretofore under the style of

GILMAN & Co.

Yokohama, January 1, 1874.

J. 9. 1m.

Transatlantische Feuer Versicherungs Actien Gesellschaft in Hamburg.

ESTABLISHED 1871.

**Capital: One Million Prussian
Thalers.**

THE COMPANY, having made arrangements for the participation in each risk, with eight Re-Insurance Companies representing an aggregate Capital of SIX MILLION PRUSSIAN THALERS, is thereby enabled to offer ample security.

POLICIES AGAINST FIRE,

to the extent of \$45,000 in ONE RISK, issued at current rates.

L. KNIFFLER & Co.
Agents.

Yokohama, July 16, 1872.

The New England Mutual Life Insurance Company, of Boston.

(ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 1, 1844.)

Accumulation, January 1, 1873.....\$11,000,172.00
Return of Surplus, 1872..... 475,000.00

Leaving as a re-insurance fund.....\$10,525,172.00
For protection of Policy holders, in accordance with the law of the Commonwealth
Amount at risk on 22,000 Lives.....\$66,014,355.00
Market value of securities composing fund \$358,232.83
OVER COST. This item not availed of in the capital presented above.

NO EXTRA PREMIUMS FOR RESIDENCE IN JAPAN.

Policies on single Lives for \$1,000 to \$20,000.

Surrender value guaranteed under Massachusetts' Statute.

WILLIAM L. CLARK, —General Agent for Japan.

Yokohama, Sept. 6th, 1873.

INSURANCE.

The Manchester Fire Assurance Company.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

Capital One Million Sterling.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

JAMES CHADWICK, Esq. *Chairman.*

DAVID R. DAVIES, Esq., *Deputy Chairman.*

JOHN BARRATT, Esq.,
SIR EDMUND BUCKLEY BART, M.P.
JOHN CHAPMAN, Esq.,
THOMAS BARHAM FOSTER, Esq.,

JOHN HOLLIDAY, Esq.,
W. M. HOULDSWORTH, Esq.,
JOHN NAPIER, Esq.,
HENRY M. STEINTHAL, Esq.

AUDITORS.

JOHN HOLGATE, Esq.,

WILLIAM MEDCALF, Esq.

BANKERS.

The Manchester and Liverpool District Banking Co., Manchester.
City Bank, London.

THE undersigned are prepared to accept risks on Buildings and Contents at current rates. Losses caused by lightning and explosion of Gas are made good.

KINGDON SCHWABE & Co.
Agents in Japan.

Yokohama, December 9, 1873.

The Java Sea and Fire Insurance Company.

BATAVIA (JAVA).

The Sea and Fire Insurance Company.

THE OOSTERLING,

BATAVIA (JAVA).

THE undersigned, having been appointed Agent at Yokohama for the above Companies, is prepared to accept Marine Risks at current rates. Policies against Fire issued for "The Oosterling" at the following Rates:—

Godowns, First-Class...12 Months...1½ per Cent.

" " ... 6 " ... 1 " "

" " ... 3 " ... ½ " "

" " ... 1 " ... ¼ " "

" " ... 10 Days..... ⅓ " "

NO POLICY FEES CHARGED.

J. PH. VON HEMERT.

Yokohama, April 9, 1873.

12ms.

North China Insurance Company.

NOTICE is hereby given that Mr. Wm. G. BAYNE has been appointed Agent at Yokohama, and is authorized to sign Policies of Insurance and generally transact the business of the above Company at that Port on and after the 1st January, 1873.

The Offices of the above Company have been opened on the Premises of Messrs. D. Sassoon Sons & Co., No. 75.

By order of the Court of Directors.

HERBERT S. MORRIS,
Secretary.

Shanghai, December 12, 1872.

INSURANCE.

**Yangtze Insurance Association
of Shanghai.****PAID-UP CAPITAL, TLS. 600,000****POLICES** granted on MARINE RISKS, to all parts of the world at Current Rates.

This Association will, until further notice, provide out of the earnings, first for an interest dividend of 15 per cent. to Shareholders on Capital, and thereafter, distribute among Policy holders annually, in Cash, ALL THE PROFITS of the underwriting Business pro rata to amount of premium contributed.

NO POLICY FEES CHARGED.

WAISH, HALL & Co.,
Agents.

Yokohama, August 30, 1872.

**China & Japan Marine Insurance
COMPANY.****CAPITAL, TLS. 1,500,000.**

THE undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept Risks at current rates allowing a discount of *Thirty-three and One third per cent* on the Premia of all Policies instead of Ten per cent. as heretofore.

This Company, after providing for an interest dividend of 12% on paid up capital, returns 3rds of the Profits annually to all contributors of business whether shareholders or not.

NO POLICY FEES CHARGED.

STRACHAN & THOMAS,
Agents.

Yokohama, December 1, 1873.

dec5-1f

**Guardian Fire and Life Assurance
Company.****L O N D O N .****E S T A B L I S H E D 1 8 2 1 .****Total Invested Funds.....£2,780,000****Total Annual Income.....£ 360,000**

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents at Yokohama are prepared to Issue Policies AGA-INST FIRE, on the usual Terms.

Concurrent Insurances require endorsement on the Policies of this Company only when specially called for by the Agents.

SMITH, BAKER & Co.

Yokohama, October 27, 1873.

**Scottish Commercial Insurance
Company.****Capital 1,000,000 Sterling.**

THE Undersigned have been appointed Agents for Yokohama, and are prepared to issue Fire Policies to the extent of \$10,000 on each risk.

FINDLAY, RICHARDSON & Co.

Yokohama, July 12 1871.

INSURANCE.

**L O N D O N
ASSURANCE
CORPORATION.****INCORPORATED BY ROYAL
CHARTER.****A.D. 1720.**

THE undersigned Agents beg to announce that this Corporation having already reduced their PREMIA FOR YOKOHAMA last year, they continue to charge the following Rates:—

GODOWNS, FIRST-CLASS.....12 Months...1½ per Cent.

" " 6 " ...1 " "

" " 3 " ...½ " "

" " 1 " ...¼ " "

" "10 Days..... ⅓ " "

They now Charge, viz:—

DWELLING HOUSES { FIRST-CLASS P. A.2½ per Cent.
in the Settlement { SECOND-CLASS "3 " "

DWELLING HOUSES { FIRST-CLASS P. A.1½ per Cent.
on the Bluff..... { SECOND-CLASS "2 " "

GUTSCHOW & Co.,
Agents.

Yokohama, December 16, 1871.

**Phoenix Fire Assurance Company.
L O N D O N .****Established in 1782.**

THE undersigned, as Agents of this Company, are prepared to accept risks on buildings and contents in the Settlement and on the Bluff at current rates.

NO POLICY FEES CHARGED.

Claims payable here or in London.

Hiogo Sub-Agents, Messrs. BROWNE & Co.

KINGDON, SCHWABE & Co.

Yokohama, Feb. 22nd, 1870.

**La Compagnie Lyonnaise
d'Assurances Maritimes. (Limited.)**

Incorporated with le Lloyd Francaise and la Compagnie
Francaise d'Assurances Maritimes.

Aggregate Capital, Fcs. 17,000,000.

THE undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Company, and are prepared to accept MARINE RISKS to all parts of the world, at current rates.

No Policy Fees charged.

HECHT, LILIENTHAL & Co.

Yokohama, July 1st, 1871.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE MEDICAL HALL.

J. THOMPSON & CO.,

Wholesale and Retail Druggists,

FROM J. LLEWELLYN & CO., SHANGHAI

Continue to supply the purest Chemicals.

AND THE

Freshest Pharmacopœia Preparations.

All the English, American and French patent
Medicines of repute,

SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS,

Photographic Chemicals and Apparatus
Toilet Requisites, &c., at the lowest possible rates.

SHIP'S MEDICINE CHESTS

supplied and refitted.

Sole Agents for the following well-known preparation.

Davenport's Chlorodyne.

Cavert's Carbolic Acid, &c., &c.

Gilmault's Proprietary Articles.

Bristol's Sarsaparilla, Pills and Florida Water.

S. Maw, Son & Thompsons,

Surgical Instruments and Medical requirements,

&c., &c., &c.

No. (60) 1, Bank Buildings,

YOKOHAMA.

Yokohama, Dec 10th, 1870.

tf.

SHIRTS—ENGLISH MAKE.

ALEXANDER GRANT & Co.,

5, OAT LANE, WOOD STREET, LONDON,

SHIRT MANUFACTURERS,

Their well known makes supplied to the WHOLESALE and SHIPPING
Trades only. Price Lists on Application.

MANUFACTORY—LONDONDERRY.

Yokohama, September 27, 1873.

26ins.

FRAUD.

On the 27th June, 1866, MOTEEWALLAH, a Printer, was con-
victed at the Supreme Court, Calcutta, of counterfeiting the

LABELS

Of Messrs. CROSSE & BLACKWELL,

London, and was sentenced by Mr. Justice Phear to

TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT:

And on the 30th of the same month, for

SELLING SPURIOUS ARTICLES

bearing Labels in imitation of Messrs. CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
SHAIK BACHOO was sentenced, by the Suburban Magistrate at
Sealdah, to

TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT.

CAUTION.—Any one selling spurious oilmen's stores, under Crosse
& Blackwell's name, will be liable to the same punishment, and will
be vigorously prosecuted. Purchasers are recommended to examine
all goods carefully upon taking delivery of them, and to destroy all
bottles and jars when emptied. The GENUINE Manufactures, the
corks of which are all branded with Crosse & Blackwell's name, may
be had from EVERY RESPECTABLE DEALER in India.

Yokohama, May 27, 1872.

12ins.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HANDYSIDE & CO.

(LIMITED),

32, Walbrook, London,

(BRITANNIA IRON WORKS, DERBY),

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BRIDGES of every description. Girder Bridges. Arch
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Andw. Handyside & Co., Limited,
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Yokohama, January 3, 1873.

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ROWLAND'S
R. ODONTO 2/9

WHITENS, PRESERVES, AND BEAUTIFIES THE
TEETH, PREVENTING THEIR DECAY.

ASK ANY CHEMIST OR PERFUMER

FOR ROWLAND'S ODONTO.
AND TAKE NO OTHER.

ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL

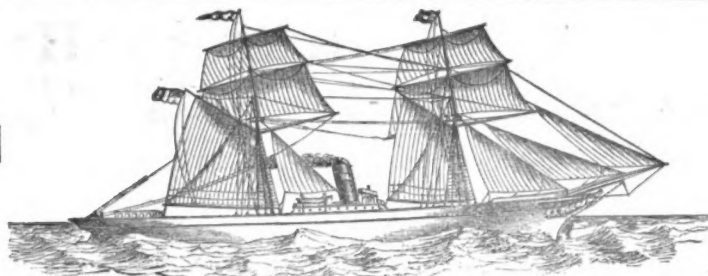
is the best and safest Restorer and Beautifier of the Human Hair.
It prevents hair from falling off or turning grey, strengthens weak
hair, cleanses it from scurf and dandruff, making it beautifully soft,
pliable and glossy. Great caution is necessary to ask for ROW-
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genuine. Price 3s. 6d., 7s., 10s. 6d., equal to 4 small, and 21s. per
bottle, CAUTION—Each bottle has a glass stopper instead of the
cork as formerly. All with the cork are spurious imitations.
ROWLANDS' ODONTO, or Pearl Dentifrice, preserves and
beautifies the Teeth, strengthens the Gums, and gives a pleasing
fragrance to the Breath. It eradicates Tartar from the Teeth,
removes spots of incipient decay, and polishes and preserves the
enamel, to which it imparts a PEARL LIKE WHITENESS. Price
2s. 6d. per box. ROWLANDS' KALYDOR realises a Healthy
Purity of Complexion and a Softness and Delicacy of Skin.
Soothing, cooling, and purifying, it eradicates all Cutaneous
Eruptions and Discolourations. Price 4s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. per bottle.
ROWLANDS' ES-ENCE OF TYRE never fails to produce
immediately perfect change in Red or Grey Hair, Whiskers
Eyebrows, &c., to a beautiful glossy and permanent Brown or
Black, which colour remains so durable that neither washing or
perspiration can remove it. Price 4s. 7s. 6d. and 10s. 6d. per
bottle. Sold by all Chemists, Perfumers, and Bazaars throughout
China and Japan. "ASK FOR ROWLANDS' ARTICLES," A ROWLAND
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Yokohama, Dec. 6, 1873.

26ins.

MISCELLANEOUS.

IRON
STEAM
AND



SAIL-
ING
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COLE BROTHERS,

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, ENGLAND,

Builders of all Classes of Iron Vessels up to the largest Dimensions.

TUGS, BARGES, &c.,

July 18, 1873.

IRON AND WOOD SHIPS REPAIRED.

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CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
CELEBRATED OILMEN'S STORES
ALL WARRANTED OF SUPERIOR QUALITY.

PICKLES, SAUCES, SYRUPS.
JAMS, IN TINS AND JARS.
ORANGE MARMALADE, TART FRUITS, DESSERT FRUITS
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MUSTARD, VINEGAR
FRUITS IN BRANDY AND NOYEAU.
POTTED MEATS AND FISH.
FRESH SALMON, OYSTERS AND HERRINGS.
KIPPERED SALMON AND HERRINGS.
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YARMOUTH BLOATERS.
BLACKWALL WHITEBAIT.
FRESH AND FINDON HADDOCKS.
PURE SALAD OIL.
SOUPS IN PINT AND QUART TINS.
PRESERVED MEATS IN TINS.
EAS, CARROTS, BEANS AND OTHER VEGETABLES
PRESERVED HAMS AND CHEESE.
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TONGUES, GAME, POULTRY.
PLUM PUDDINGS.
LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

*Fresh supplies of the above and numerous other table delicacies may
always be had from every Storekeeper.*

CAUTION.

*Jars and Bottles should invariably be destroyed when empty, to
prevent the fraud of refilling them with native productions.
Goods should always be examined upon delivery, to detect any
attempt at substitution of articles of inferior brands.
Every Cork is branded with Crosse & Blackwell's name.*

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50 RO SQUARE, LONDON.

At the Paris Exhibition of 1867, THREE Prize Medals were award-
ed to CROSSE & BLACKWELL, for the marked superiority
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Yokohama, May 27, 1872.

12ms.

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THIS UNIVERSAL REMEDY now stands the first in public
favour and confidence: this result has been acquired by the
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sale in every British Colony, and throughout India and China they
have been highly esteemed wherever introduced. For COUGHS,
ASTHMA, and all affections of the Throat and Chest, they are the
most agreeable and efficacious remedy. They do not contain opium
or any other deleterious drug, and may therefore be taken with
perfect safety by the most delicate constitution.

Sold in Bottles of various sizes.

KEATING'S BON BONS OR WORM TABLETS

A PURELY VEGETABLE SWEETMEAT, both in appearance
and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering
the only certain remedy for **INTESTINAL OR THREAD WORMS**.
It is a perfectly safe and mild preparation, and is especially adapted
for children. Sold in Tins and Bottles of various sizes by all
Chemists.

CAUTION.—The public are
requested to observe that all the above
preparations bear the Trade Mark as
herein shown.

THOMAS KEATING, London
EXPORT CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

Indents for pure Drugs and Chemicals
carefully executed
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THESE famous and unrivalled Pills act most powerfully, yet soothing-
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these great main springs of life. Females of all ages will find them in
all cases to be depended upon. Persons suffering from weak or debili-
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medicine there is "Health for all." Blood is the fountain of life, and its
purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

Sir Samuel Baker, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," speaks of the Pills in the highest terms.

Mr. J. T. Cooper, in his famous "Travels in China," says that when
money could not procure for him his necessary requirements, he could
always get his wants supplied in exchange for "Holloway's Pills."

THE GREAT CURE ALL! HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of a
kind. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases
and in arresting and subduing all inflammations. Rubbed on the neck
and chest, it exerts the most beneficial influence over asthma, shortness
of breath, sore throats, bronchitis, diphtheria, coughs, and colds. In the
cure of gout, rheumatism, glandular swellings, and stiff joints, it has no
equal. In disorders of the kidneys the Ointment should be most
effectually rubbed over the seat of those organs.

THE "MOFUSSIL GUARDIAN,"

Of August 31st, 1872, states that a severe case of that dreadful plague
"dengue" was cured in a few hours, by well rubbing the body with
Holloway's Ointment.

These remedies are only prepared by the Proprietor, THOMAS
HOLLOWAY, 533, Oxford Street, London. Beware of counterfeits that
may emanate from the United States.

Yokohama, September 27, 1873.

52 ins.